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The Pennsylvania German Society

Proceedings and Addresses

VOLUME XXXIX

Easton, October 12, 1928

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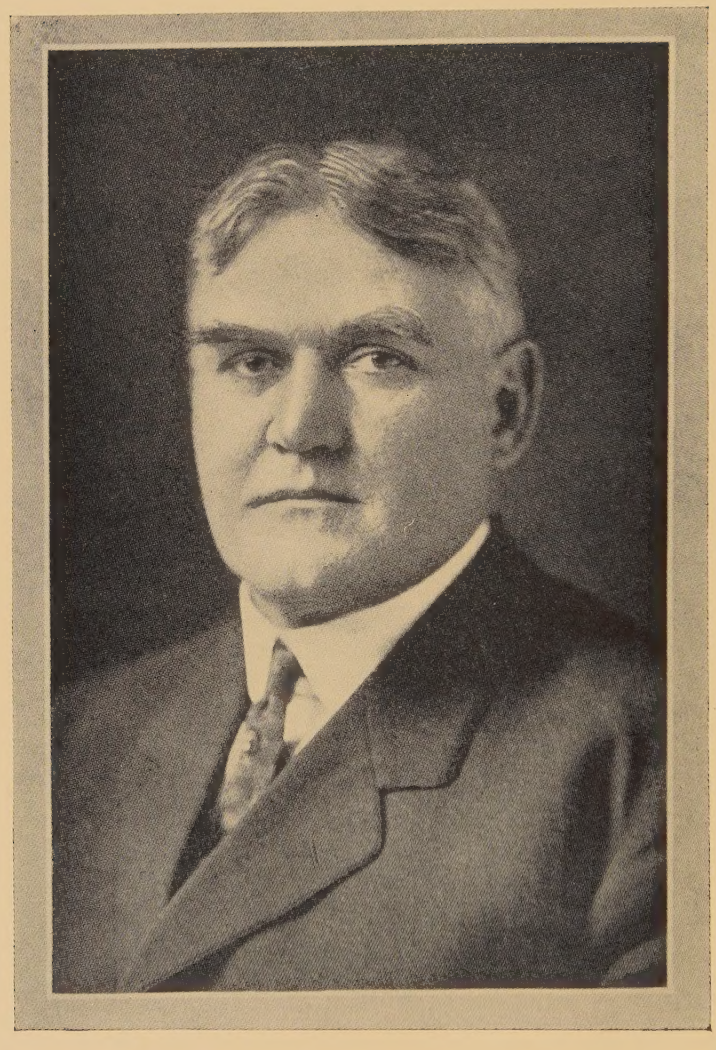
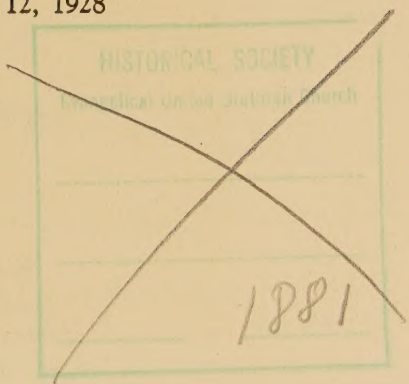


M. V. Brumbaugh

The Pennsylvania German Society

EASTON, OCTOBER 12, 1928



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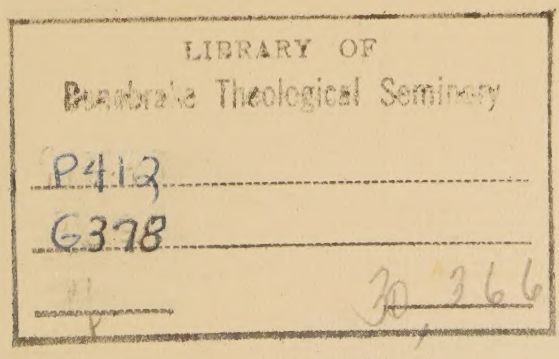
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HENRY S. BORNEMAN, L. L. B.
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OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

FOR 1927–28

President

HON. MARTIN G. BRUMBAUGH, PH. D., LITT. D., LL.D.

Vice-Presidents

REV. SAMUEL STEIN, D. D.

REV. PRESTON A. LAURY, D. D.

Secretary

HIRAM H. SHENK, A. M.

Treasurer

J. E. BURNETT BUCKENHAM, M. D.

Executive Committee

Terms Expire 1929

H. FRANK ESHLEMAN, LL.B.

HENRY S. BORNEMAN, LL.B.

CHARLES R. ROBERTS

Terms Expire 1930

GEORGE A. GORGAS, PH. D.

REV. JOHN BAER STOUDT, D. D.

H. WINSLOW FEGLEY

Terms Expire 1931

B. F. FACKENTHAL, JR., SC. D.

REV. C. B. SCHNEDER, D. D.

HON. F. A. GODCHARLES

Terms Expire 1932

GEORGE W. SANDT, D. D., LL.D.

PORTER W. SHIMER, PH. D.

WILLIAM M. SCHNURE, B. S.

Terms Expire 1933

H. M. M. RICHARDS, LITT. D.

ULYSSES S. KOONS, LL.B.

ALFRED PERCIVAL SMITH, LL.B.

REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF

PENNSYLVANIA GERMAN SOCIETY

AT ITS

THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING

HELD AT EASTON ON

OCTOBER 12, 1928

THE annual meeting of the Pennsylvania German Society, held in St. John's Lutheran Church, brought to Easton a number of distinguished Pennsylvanians. About 100 members were present at the morning session, which opened at 10 o'clock, and a much larger number at the afternoon session.

In the absence of Captain Henry M. M. Richards, of Lebanon, chairman of the Executive Committee, the meeting was called to order by George A. Gorgas, of Harrisburg, a member of the Executive Committee, who stated that the present session was the first that Captain

Richards had missed since the organization of the Society, and that he was attending the Lutheran General Council at Erie. Mr. Gorgas introduced the president of the Society, the Hon. Martin Grove Brumbaugh, president of Juniata College. The invocation was offered by Rev. Howard H. Krauss, pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Red Hill.

Rev. Dr. F. K. Fretz, pastor of St. John's Church, delivered the address of welcome on behalf of the local committee:

"Mr. President and Members of the Pennsylvania German Society:

"It is my privilege and pleasure to welcome you to St. John's. On the natal day of the discovery or re-discovery of America, you meet here to pay tribute to a long list of men and women, who, with a determination equaling that of the intrepid Genoese navigator, braved the stormy Atlantic and came to the colony of Penn on the banks of the Delaware and set up a new home in the virgin wilderness. Others have told the story of their privations and sufferings. My duty is to welcome you to St. John's—a veritable shrine for every Pennsylvania German.

"As early as the beginning of the eighteenth century, our forefathers lived in this vicinity. In 1706 Pastor Andreas Rudman, a celebrated Swedish pastor, who was a graduate of the University of Upsala, and who at that time was pastor of the Dutch Church in New York, came to minister to the German settlers at the Forks of the Delaware. In 1732 John Caspar Stoever travelled from Philadelphia to Easton and performed ministerial acts. In 1740 the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Augsburg Confession at the Forks of the Delaware was organized, and called John Justus Birkenstock as pastor. He ministered in this vicinity for five years, at the end

of which period he was compelled to return to Germany on account of his health and died in the land of his birth.

"From that time to this, the congregation has had an unbroken record of spiritual and material achievement. Distinguished pastors ministered at her altars. I need not call attention to the labors of Muhlenberg at this strategic point. In 1745 he visited Easton after Birkenstock's departure and left an English pound for the use of the impoverished school teacher of this congregation. For fifty years, the only school master in this vicinity was the one connected with this Church.

"In the pastorate of Daniel Schumacker, the congregation began its work on this side of the Delaware River, within one block of this present building. English services were also started.

"I need not recount the names of brilliant pastors who ministered here. If I were to do this, you would be compelled to listen to an historical address instead of to a few words of welcome. I only want to recall to your minds the names of Endress, Streit, John Peter Hecht, who ministered for thirty years, was a Professor of Lafayette College, first president of the Easton School Board, founder of the Easton Public Library and a distinguished pulpit orator whose fame had spread far beyond the confines of his own parish and denomination. Rev. Dr. John W. Richards, Dr. Chas. Frederick Schaffer, Dr. Sadler, afterwards President of Muhlenberg College; Dr. Belfour, Dr. David Geissinger, and others, help to make up the long list of distinguished leaders of the Lutheran Church who have ministered here.

"Great leaders of this community always occupied the pews of this Church. George Taylor, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, was a member of this congregation and lies buried in the consecrated acre of God surrounding this building. Leaders of all the great wars

were buried here. Revolutionary patriots are sleeping their last long sleep in the basement of this building. Here George Wolf, afterwards Governor of Pennsylvania, taught a class of young men. Here in the parsonage of this Church, John Peter Hecht gave the fundamental instruction necessary for entrance into Jefferson Medical College to Samuel Gross, one of the young men of his Parish. Here Lafayette College held many of its first classes at the time of its inception and the first commencement exercises were held here. Here the Court and officials of the county and citizens gathered to pay tribute to William Henry Harrison at his death.

"Here, in brief, pastors preached the Word and trained men and women for public service, and from this place one hundred and ten men went out to answer the call of the colors during the last World War.

"I have rightly said this is an historic spot—a shrine for every lover of Pennsylvania and member of that group known as the Pennsylvania German, who have done so much by their integrity, their thrift, their high thinking, to place this community at the head of the states comprising this great nation. To this place we welcome you."

President Brumbaugh thanked Dr. Fretz for his words of welcome and for his gripping story of old St. John's.

Mr. Gorgas announced that the executive committee received word that H. H. Shenk, of Harrisburg, the secretary of the Society, would be unable to attend the meeting and Henry S. Borneman, of Philadelphia, was appointed secretary *pro tem.*

The report of the auditors was presented and was ordered received and filed. It showed a balance on October 9 of $4,525.01.

The president's address was delivered by Dr. Brum-

baugh, who opened his speech by stating that he was glad that he sprang from Pennsylvania German ancestry. He also thanked the members for the honor they had conferred upon him last year by electing him president.

The closing address of the morning session was delivered by Hon. Henry J. Steele, A. M., LL. D., of Easton, former Congressman from this district, on "The Life and Public Services of Governor George Wolf," after which the members of the society adjourned to the Hotel Easton, where they were the guests at a Pennsylvania German luncheon given by the newly elected president, Hon. Ralph Beaver Strassburger.

At the afternoon session the following addresses were delivered: "The Contribution of David O. Saylor to the Early History of the Portland Cement Industry in America," by Professor Benjamin L. Miller, Lehigh University; "Dates, Stones and Inscriptions on Houses in Eastern Pennsylvania," by Rev. John Baer Stoudt, D. D., Allentown; "Dr. Samuel Gross, Surgeon," by Dr. Adam L. Kotz, Easton.

Applications for membership were received from the following: Magdalena S. Stauffer, George F. Knerr, Rev. Joseph P. Bachman, Harry A. Beaver, J. C. Burkholder, Matilda O. Daub, Asher J. Odenwelder, Jr., Mary C. Illick, Harvey Lerch, Louise A. Leisenring, Claude Kress, Stanley H. Cauffman, John M. Kline, Milton Wolf, Dwight L. Miller, William A. Schneder, Mrs. Henry H. Funk and Miss Sarah Fry. On motion the applicants were all elected to membership in the society.

The committee on necrology reported the following deaths during the year: Dr. Edgar Fahs Smith, Hon. Harman Yerkes, Jeremiah S. Hess, Anselm B. Hiester, George Hetrich, Laura M. Kaiser, George A. Laubach, Daniel Grimm, John A. Scheffer, Walter B. Diefender-

fer and Michael Reed Minnich. The committee also reported the death of Judge John M. Garman, of Wilkes-Barre, during the year 1926-27.

Rev. Dr. Elmer E. S. Johnson, of Pennsburg, paid a tribute to the departed members who had won a last-place in the hearts of all who knew them. He said that Jeremiah S. Hess,of Hellertown, who died recently, was one of the men who founded the society at Lancaster in 1891. Rev. Paul deSchweinitz, of Bethlehem, is now the only survivor of those who founded the society. Mr. Hess was so faithful to the society that he sent his daughter to the meeting at York last year, being unable to attend himself.

All present bowed their heads in prayer as a tribute to the memory of the departed members.

Dr. Buckenham, the treasurer, spoke briefly on the deaths of Judge Harman Yerkes, of Doylestown, and Dr. Edgar Fahs Smith, of Philadelphia, both ex-presidents of the society and both faithful workers in the organization.

The report of the committee on nominations was presented by Charles R. Roberts, of Allentown, and the report was unanimously adopted. Officers for 1928-29 are as follows: President, Ralph Beaver Strassburger, Norristown; vice-presidents, Judge Russell C. Stewart and Dr. Adam L. Kotz, Easton; treasurer, Dr. J. E. Burnett Buckenham, Philadelphia; secretary, Henry S. Borneman, Philadelphia; executive committee, Captain Henry M. M. Richards, Lebanon, chairman; Ulysses S. Koons, Philadelphia; Henry S. Borneman, Philadelphia; H. Frank Eshleman, Lancaster; Charles R. Roberts, Allentown; George A. Gorgas, Harrisburg; Rev. Dr. John Baer Stoudt, Allentown; H. Winslow Fegely, Reading; Captain F. A. Godcharles, Harrisburg; Rev. C. B. Schneder, D. D., Shamokin; Rev. George W. Sandt, D.D.,

LL. D., Philadelphia; Porter W. Shimer, Ph. D., Easton; William M. Schnure, Selinsgrove; Martin G. Brumbaugh, Ph. D., Huntingdon.

H. H. Shenk, secretary for the past two years, tendered his resignation and was succeeded by H. S. Borneman, of Philadelphia.

The Committee on Arrangements was: Asher Seip, Esq., chairman; J. Ingham Kinsey, Esq.; Professor A. Henry Fretz; Edward L. Osterstock; Porter W. Shimer, Ph. D.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER
OF THE
PENNSYLVANIA GERMAN SOCIETY
OCTOBER 18, 1927—OCTOBER 9, 1928

October 18, 1927, To Balance in Penn National Bank		$2,372.03
RECEIPTS:		
Annual Dues	$1,366.00	
Redemption of Third U. S. Liberty Loan Bond, 4¼%, due September 15, 1928	1,000.00	
Interest on above Liberty Bond	42.50	
Interest on Electric and Peoples Traction Bonds	40.00	
Publications Sold	25.00	$2,473.50
		$4,845.53
EXPENDITURES:		
John A. Bausman, Insurance on Proceedings, 1928-29	$ 3.00	
P. C. Stockhausen, Stationery and Printing	15.75	
Penn National Bank, Safe Deposit Box	5.00	

Dues, Penna. Federation of Historical Societies	5.00	
Louis A. Irwin, Stationery and Printing	38.50	
H. H. Shenk, Salary	250.00	
Lancaster Press, Inc., Mailing and Postage	3.27	320.52
Balance in Penn National Bank, October 9, 1928		$4,525.01

ASSETS

Two $500.00 Bonds, Electric & People Traction Company, $1,000.00.

Respectfully submitted,
J. E. BURNETT BUCKENHAM,
Treasurer

OUTLINE FOR HISTORICAL ROMANCE

AN OUTLINE FOR HISTORICAL ROMANCE

By

HON. MARTIN G. BRUMBAUGH

Presented to the Pennsylvania German Society,
Easton, October 12, 1928

PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY
1930

AN OUTLINE FOR HISTORICAL ROMANCE

THE three dominant groups of people settling in Colonial Pennsylvania were the Quakers, the Scotch-Irish, and the Germans. The Quakers, English and Welsh under the leadership of the great Penn founded our metropolis and engaged in trade with the mother country across the Atlantic.

The Scotch-Irish, bold and aggressive and daring, pushed their way to the frontier, subdued the Indians, carved homes out of the wilderness, erected schools and churches, and materially modified the policies of the proprietary government.

The Germans, lovers of home and of land, loyal and religious, peace-loving and industrious, sought the fertile soil of the Piedmont Plateau and engaged for the most part in agriculture. They laid the foundation of successful farm life in America; and their descendants, far and wide, are still the best farmers in America. They also in part gave themselves to the textile industries, weaving in flax and wool and later in cotton,

giving to America her great textile industry. Others, especially the group that had contact with the schools at Halle, gave themselves to the study of the medicinal value of plants and set up the practice of medicine. The first medical school and botanical garden in America were in Germantown. From this enterprise of German people came the founding of the great medical school of the University of Pennsylvania—the first in America. Nor were these Germans neglectful of the religious obligations that rest upon all people. They brought here a fine devotion to the things of the Spirit and set up in houses, barns, and cabins temples of worship to Almighty God.

At least seven distinct faiths were represented in this German migration—the Lutherans, the German Reformed, the Moravians, the Mennonites, the Schwenkfelders, the Dunkers, and the Seventh-Day Baptists at Ephrata and Snow Hill.

In 1742 Count Zinzendorf, of the Moravian Church, visiting the churches of his Communion in Pennsylvania, endeavored to unite these seven Communions in one great body to be called "The Church in the Spirit." The effort failed after seven great conferences. One must wonder what might have been the Spiritual story of Pennsylvania had he succeeded.

The Seventh Day Baptists had their first house of worship in Philadelphia, near the site of the great Bourse Building. Their second place of worship was at Newtown Square, and the mother of General Anthony Wayne is said to have been a member at this place. The third settlement was near the present village of Harmonyville in upper Chester County. Here came a Dunker of great capacity for leadership from the Conestoga Country. He joined this group of worshippers, returned to Lancaster County and in 1728 founded

the Ephrata Society, largely recruited from the Dunker faith.

This leader and founder of the Ephrata society of Seventh Day Baptists was Conrad Beissel, who until his death in 1768 ruled the society with despotic power and developed the first Protestant Monastery in America.

The members of the society observed the seventh day as the Sabbath and they practised celibacy. Only celibates were really members of the society. The men lived in Bethania, now decayed and gone. The women in Saron, contiguous to the Saal or House of Worship. The last member in this society passed away more than a quarter of a century ago—a dear, lovely, pious woman, affectionately addressed as "Aunt Sarah Bowman."

When members of the society married outsiders or when a brother and sister married, they were removed from the society. They were obliged to vacate their former residence in Bethania or Saron and they lost the right to participate in the Communal estate or to vote in its Councils.

If they were both members they could after marriage live on Zion's Hill and attend the worship in the Saal. But they were not active members of the society.

Thus, for lack of recruits, this celibate monastery, the Ephrata Society, has passed away. Descendants of the Householders survive and cling to the teachings of Conrad Beissel and his successor, Peter Miller.

The property has fallen into decay. It will soon disappear unless the Commonwealth enters speedily into negotiations to take it over and preserve it as one of our sacred historic shrines. This I earnestly trust will be done. What more fitting service could this honorable society—made up of descendants of all our

German Colonial churches—perform than to have the Legislature enact a law and provide a small sum to acquire and to maintain this sacred shrine? For, while there are no legal owners surviving, it is fitting that those who have lived and worshipped here until now —descendants of the Householder group—should be treated with the fine chivalry and generous courtesy befitting our great Commonwealth.

The Pennsylvania German Society should not be content to meet, hear historic papers, engage in delightful reminiscences and remain indifferent to its greater service—that of making some permanent contribution to the expanding life of the Commonwealth and of preserving to the remoter generations the shrines of our pioneer peoples.

Once this society assumes the duty indicated it will, after one successful endeavor, now easily within its reach, find other and vitally important tasks to undertake and carry to a successful conclusion.

Let us make also a concerted effort to enlist the young men and women of our country, whose lineage permits, in our society and arouse in them a love of ancestry, a devotion to colonial history, an active participation in constructive service. I most earnestly entreat you to proceed now to an early acquisition of the property of the Ephrata Society by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

And now, if I were a romancer, gifted and leisured, I would weave out of this unique society on the Cocalico a story—mostly supported by historic record and only in a small way supported by the easiest of imaginative processes—that for pathos, beauty and graphic situations has few if any equals. The outline of this, hastily sketched, may, I trust will, stir some sympathetic soul to give to the world a volume which may with some

Cloister Buildings at Ephrata

propriety be entitled "Bon Cretian."

About the time that German migration to the land of Penn began to take on proportions of great moment, there lived in Strasburg, Germany, a family named Eckerlin. The father was a member of the Catholic Church and a Burgomaster. In his civil capacity he was, by the Westphalian Treaty, obliged to prosecute and even destroy all dissenters from the three faiths that by that treaty leagued themselves together to maintain what to them was the only true religion.

Burgomaster Eckerlin was troubled in spirit. He could not easily perform the duties of his office in the persecution of pious dissenters. At night with his wife and his three sons he fled his home and his church, taking refuge in Holland, the land of tolerance and the home of many war-weary peoples. Here he died. His widow and her boys, caught by the currents of immigration to America, came to Germantown and settled there. Early in the thirties of the eighteenth century the sons visited Ephrata and were favorably impressed with its simple, sweet Communion. They desired much to become inmates of Bethania. But the mother could not be abandoned. After conference with Conrad Beissel, Superintendent of the Ephrata Community, it was agreed that the sons could erect on the opposite side of the Cocalico stream a home for their mother and that they could enter the society. This was done. Here the mother, under the tender care of her devoted sons, lived until she closed her eyes to the scenes of this life and opened them to the scenes of lives in Heaven.

The sons, inheriting from both parents ability and piety, set about to revolutionize the Ephrata Society. Under their guidance the society changed from a community of people who were good to one which

endeavored to do good. Order was established in the hours of toil. A bell was brought from England and set up to ring the hours of labor and of worship. A great orchard of a thousand trees was planted, a fulling mill, a paper mill, a printery and other manufacturing establishments were set up. The society prospered economically. It was growing rich. The oldest Eckerlin, Michael, was made assistant to the Superintendent. His influence was dominant. For reasons, not here germane, the Superintendent decided to put an end to the Eckerlin activities. The three men were banished. The money in the treasury was given away. The orchard was destroyed. The bell was sold to Lancaster and the Society again settled down to be a community whose goal was to be good rather than to do good.

The young men went west in winter over an unbroken trail and settled in a cabin on what, because of them, is now known as Dunker Run, a tributary of the Monongahela River. When Mason and Dixon later on defined the boundary between the heirs of Penn and those of Lord Baltimore they record that they stopped the survey at Dunker Run because of the hostility of the Indians.

These exiles, Michael, Israel and Jacob Eckerlin, lived for many years in what they thought was Virginia territory. They traded with the Indians. They compounded from medicinal herbs such concoctions as gave relief to sick Indians and they preached to the savages the gospel of the Son of God. They lived under the friendly protection of the Indians they served and helped.

When in 1754 the French and Indian war, so called, involved not only the whites but many Indians in warfare, these friendly savages informed the Eckerlins that

they had better return east as there was no longer assured protection for them in the wilderness.

After much meditation, consultation and prayer they decided to remain and trust their God for their safety. The war drew near. The Ohio Valley was filled with hostile camps. Jacob Eckerlin was sent to Williamsburg to ask of the Governor protection. While he was away their home was attacked. The two brothers were taken prisoners and hurried to Fort DeQuesne, and the cabin was burned.

True to Indian custom, one savage was left by the ruins to kill Jacob and bring his scalp to the fort. When Jacob returned and saw his home in ashes, his brothers gone, he knew not whither, he fell upon his knees in prayer. The Indian who was to slay him returned to the fort. He had no scalp. When asked about it he said: "White man came, fell on his knees in prayer. Indian took up his gun. His eyes grew dim. He came away."

The brothers at Fort DuQuesne were sent under armed escort northward to Montreal, whence in the following spring they were sent to France for exchange of prisoners with England. No exchange of prisoners was made in the Colonies.

On the journey northward these prisoners spent a night in an Indian settlement in Western Pennsylvania near the New York boundary. Their presence aroused much commotion in the Indian Village. The Indian women came to see, to feed, to learn from the prisoners something of their life, and it was not possible for these white men to converse in the Indian language of this tribe. Among the Indian women was a tall, stately young woman, whose whole bearing was unlike that of the others. She was Sawquehanna, the White Lily. She felt strangely drawn to these white prisoners. She

knew not why. Michael Eckerlin looked upon her comeliness and a great hope sprang up in his heart. It was a case of love at first sight, but neither could know the cause, or convey to the other this emotion.

The White Lily was in reality a white woman—Regina Hartman—who was almost a score of years before captured by the Indians near Orwigsburg, Pennsylvania, and who at the close of the war was restored to her mother at Carlisle, Pennsylvania. So these two went each his or her own way, carrying a love for the other that never died but was never realized by any subsequent meeting.

Michael Eckerlin was taken to France. He could not hope ever to meet the Indian queen of his heart and, refusing the privilege of exchange, he became a French subject, entered the church from which his father fled, and became a priest—and was known as Bon Cretian.

Sawquehanna, restored to her mother and her brother Christian, the sole survivors of the massacre of the Hartman family, carried her love for the prisoner in her heart. She never married, but gave her life in holy ministries of help to suffering people in the region round about her home and at a ripe old age fell asleep with her heart aflame with love that was hopeless but true.

Here's the outline for the historic romance. May some worthy descendant of these pioneer Germans weave the narrative into a treatise worthy the great heritage of love and loyalty they have given to us.

GOVERNOR GEORGE WOLF

THE LIFE AND PUBLIC SERVICES OF GOVERNOR GEORGE WOLF

By

HON. HENRY J. STEELE

Read before the Pennsylvania German Society at
Easton, October 12, 1928

PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY

1930

Hon. George Wolf

LIFE AND PUBLIC SERVICES OF GOVERNOR GEORGE WOLF

FOR more than a thousand years, reaching far back into the earliest times, the Rhine was the prize for which the Romans, Gauls and Germans contended. Probably no region of country on the globe has witnessed so many sanguinary conflicts as the country along the Upper Rhine. It was there the Romans struggled for more than five centuries to subdue the fierce German tribes, only to leave them unconquered at the end of that time. No matter what nations were engaged in war the scene of their conflict was almost invariably transferred to the Rhine country. That the Rhine should thus be the gage of European battle is due both to geography and to history, for regarded from either point of view, it is unique among the rivers of Northern Europe. The glens of the Rhine headstreams have made possible Switzerland; the marshy islands of the delta have been the nucleus of Holland. Parallel to the Rhine, but westward, runs the most sig-

nificant division of Europe, the boundary between the Romance and the Teutonic languages. The theory that the Rhine is the "natural" frontier of France was bequeathed to that country by the Roman Emperor Augustus, and for centuries that theory has been a bone of military contention between France and Germany. It was, therefore, natural that this martial spirit should have produced at Strasburg along the Rhine the Marseillaise, the grandest of all war songs. Sixty years later the Wacht am Rhein was set to music.

The Valley of the Upper Rhine possesses many natural attractions and is regarded as one of the most fertile in Central Europe. It is indeed "the garden of Germany." There are to be seen the most highly cultivated fields, vine clad hills, enchanting scenery and ruined castles that tell of a once feudal dignity and glory. This valley was the ancestral home of the Pennsylvania Germans.

It is a natural inquiry, therefore, why a people, with the advantages of civilization, should wish to leave so fair a country and travel three thousand miles in a sailing vessel across the stormy Atlantic to live among savage Indian tribes, in a country covered by virgin forests. The causes which led to this emigration were almost irresistible. Destructive wars, religious persecution, relentless oppression by petty tyrants, rendered existence unendurable at home, while favorable reports from earlier settlers beyond the Atlantic, more plentiful means of transportation and an innate desire for adventure made irresistible the attraction of the foreign shore. The area which furnished the largest number of emigrants was the southwestern part of Germany, the Palatinate, Wurtemberg, Baden, Alsace and Switzerland, perhaps in that very order. Sometimes all of

the causes just mentioned united to compel an exodus from a particular district, as in the case of the Palatinate, while in Switzerland, with a nominally freer government, religious persecution was the main cause of emigration. The emigrations from the Palatinate for a time surpassed in extent those from all other parts of Germany, so much so that in England and America emigrants from Germany were commonly called Palatines.

George Wolf, the father of Governor Wolf, was a native of Lower Alsace, a terribly devastated section. He was buried in the old Schoenersville church yard, a few miles northwest of Bethlehem, originally a part of Allen Township; and upon his tombstone it is stated that he was born March 19th, 1737, and died November 5th, 1808, with the added inscription: "He walked with God." Both father and grandfather of Governor Wolf sailed at the same time for America from Rotterdam, in the ship Queen of Denmark and arrived at Philadelphia on October 4th, 1751. After their arrival the grandfather settled in Bethlehem Township, and the father went to the Irish settlement in Allen Township. Northampton County was created in March, 1752, and about that time an alarming crisis existed. The early French settlers who were then hovering around the Great Lakes sedulously applied themselves to seduce the Indians from their allegiance to the English. This gave rise to the French and Indian War. After the defeat of the English, under General Braddock, near Pittsburgh, in the summer of 1753, by the French and Indians, consternation spread throughout Pennsylvania. The whole frontier from the Delaware to the Potomac was lighted with burning cottages. These Indians joined by the Delaware Indians roamed unmolested among the passes of the mountains, laying waste all

the settlements beyond the Blue Mountains and making inroads upon the settlements below the mountains. On the evening of November 24th, 1755, the Indians attacked the Moravian settlement at "Gnaden Hutten," opposite what is now Lehighton, murdered eleven of the settlers and burned the church and buildings. This attack covered the country between Lehigh Gap and Nazareth, including Allen Township. The defenceless citizens could only seek safety in flight. In a letter written by Benjamin Franklin to Governor Morris, dated Bethlehem, January 14th, 1756, he stated that he found Bethlehem filled with refugees from the Irish settlement. In the list of these refugees that came to the Moravian settlement in the winter of 1756 appears the name of George Wolf. And in Volume 15, Page 771, in an official state publication, entitled "Pennsylvania in the Revolution," appears the name of George Wolf of Northampton County in the list of soldiers of the Revolution, with the statement that he served through several tours on the frontiers against the Indians, on the Delaware, North of the Blue Mountains, first as sergeant, then as lieutenant and afterwards as captain of militia.

The French and Indian War ended by treaty of peace in 1763, by which France lost her possessions in America. Apparently Wolf, at the close of this war, returned to Allen Township, where in 1772 he appears in the list of taxables of that township as a farmer and a married person, against whom a tax was assessed. On April 12th, 1773, he entered into an agreement with Andrew Allen for the purchase of one hundred and one acres of land, located in the Irish settlement. He evidently took possession of this land before he obtained a deed, for in the township assessment list for 1775 he was assessed with the same acreage—twenty

acres of which were improved or cultivated. The tract was part of the original Allen tract of five thousand acres, which included the Irish Settlement, and was known as a fertile tract of agricultural land. It was conveyed in 1766 by William Allen, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, to his son, Andrew Allen, a member of the Colonial Congress in 1775-6. Andrew Allen was a British loyalist, who joined the British Army and was adjudged guilty of treason by the Supreme Court, because of which his title to this land was forfeited to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the court accordingly directed that upon Wolf paying to the Commonwealth two hundred and forty pounds the President of the Supreme Executive Council should execute and deliver to him a deed for the property purchased from Allen. On September 20th, 1785, Benjamin Franklin, President of the Supreme Executive Council, executed and delivered to Wolf such a deed. Wolf was evidently a man of strong character, great courage and much above the ordinary in ability.

In 1727 records of immigration were begun, and from this time to the Revolution the greatest volume of German emigration occurred. These German immigrants were principally farmers who were accustomed to work and to depend upon themselves. They wielded the mattock and the axe and by the power of brawny arms converted the virgin forest into arable land. They were those of whom Governor Thomas spoke when he said, in 1738: "This province has been for some years the asylum of the distressed Protestants of the Palatinate and other parts of Germany; and I believe it may be truthfully said that the present flourishing condition of it is in a great measure owing to the industry of these people." They did fine pioneer work, were good farmers, religious and very thrifty. At the

time of the Revolution they comprised about one-third the population of the province, and their influence largely contributed to the adoption of the Declaration of Independence and the Federal Constitution.

Before leaving the subject of German immigration, I may be permitted to say a word or two concerning the language spoken by the German immigrants in Pennsylvania and their descendants. From the beginning of the German language there were two main groups, one designated as High German and the other as Low German; the former of which was spoken in the hilly and mountainous midland and south, and the latter in the low and level north. By the end of the sixteenth century, however, Low German had almost ceased to be written, the people of the north having adopted the common High Germany literary language for all higher purposes. It was the language of Luther, Goethe and Schiller, and being the literary language used by the educated classes, the term German is frequently an equivalent to High German. There is nothing extraordinary in this evolution of the German language. The same change took place in the English and French languages. Thus the present standard English was originally a mixture of the Midland and Southern dialects, spoken in London in the middle ages, just as standard French is historically the dialect of that district of which Paris is the centre. All living languages are subject to change.

When the early German immigrants came to Pennsylvania they brought with them the language of their German fatherland, which was High German. The language spoken by the Pennsylvania Germans today is an inheritance from their ancestors and barring an infusion of English, is substantially the same as their ancestors brought here. John Fiske, in his "Dutch and

Quaker Colonies," says that their language "is really High German with a quaint admixture of English." Any one who can speak Pennsylvania German will have little difficulty in making himself understood today by the people in the old Palatinate district. While in this district some years ago in company with a native Pennsylvania German I heard him frequently carry on conversations with the natives of that district and both perfectly understood each other.

Governor Wolf was born in Allen Township, during the darkest hours of the Revolutionary War, on August 12th, 1777. For the educational advantage of the future Governor, it was indeed fortunate that his father located in the midst of the Irish Settlement. The first settlers of this section were Irish Presbyterians, who came from Ulster in the North of Ireland as early as 1728. They were followed by others of their countrymen, and by 1731 a sufficient community had gathered together to form quite a settlement, which came to be known as the "Irish Settlement." A Presbyterian Church was built in the settlement in 1746. Its leaders took an active part in the Revolutionary War. One of the earliest classical schools in Pennsylvania was opened by these Scotch-Irish settlers, in Allen Township, in 1785, located near their church. The first principal was Robert Andrews, a graduate of Trinity College, Dublin. This gave young Wolf the opportunity of obtaining a classical education without removing from his parental roof. In this academy he pursued the usual routine of classical studies that would have fitted him for college.

After leaving school he had charge of his father's farm, for a time, and also acted as principal of the academy. He was later employed as a clerk in the office of the Prothonotary at Easton, and while there

commenced and completed the study of the law under the Honorable John Ross, of Easton. John Ross practiced law in Easton for a number of years, and served several terms in Congress. When Wolf, his law student, became Governor, he appointed Ross a Judge of the Supreme Court.

In 1798, at the age of twenty-one years, George Wolf was admitted to the Bar, and at once actively engaged in politics. He supported the election of Thomas McKean as Governor, in 1799, and Thomas Jefferson as President, in 1800. He was appointed postmaster at Easton in 1801, and subsequently, in 1804, Clerk of the Orphans' Court of the county, which office he held until 1809. During this time he had built up quite a lucrative law practice, which greatly increased in after years, owing to his correct habits of business, and his familiarity with the German language. From 1817 to 1825 he brought and appeared in more suits than any member of the Bar of the county. In the preparation of legal papers he was very careful and correct. In 1814 he was elected a member of the House of Representatives of Pennsylvania, but declined being a candidate for re-election. In 1824 and 1826, he was nominated and elected to Congress without opposition, and was re-elected in 1828 by a large majority. In Congress he was distinguished for his habitual industry and attention to the matters pending before that body and as chairman of an important committee made numerous reports, evincing those powers of investigation and discrimination for which it is conceded he was remarkable. Probably the most controversial subject before Congress during his service was the tariff, and he was an outspoken supporter of that legislation.

Without having been a candidate, Wolf was nominated, on March 4th, 1829, by the Democratic party

as its candidate for Governor. During his service as a member of the Federal House of Representatives he had as a colleague James Buchanan, chairman of the important Committee on the Judiciary. In the files of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania the original of the following letter can be found, written a few days after his nomination:

Easton, March 7th, 1829.

Dear Sir:

The information communicated by your kind and obliging letter of the 4th inst., is I confess of an agreeable nature, not so much as it regards myself individually, but because the course proposed to be pursued by the Governor will, in case no other candidate is brought into the contest, ensure the good I hope of the State, and that tranquility and repose which after the excitement they have recently emerged from.

Your friends Judge Rogers and Dr. Sample have my thanks and merit those of the citizens of Pennsylvania generally, for having warded off an electioneering contest which must have been attended with much political acrimony and bitterness, and which however it might have eventuated must necessarily have left the character even of the victor in a wounded and shattered condition.

I believe I need not tell you that the office of Governor of this great and growing Commonwealth never was desired, much less solicited or aspired to by me; no one regrets more than I do that some individual more highly gifted than myself and who would have added a dignity and given a tone and character to the administration of the State government of which I am incapable, had not been selected by the convention, but as the convention have thought proper to place my humble name before the public without any agency of mine, I shall acquiesce without a murmur on my part, in any course the people may think proper to adopt, and shall be perfectly content with any result they may arrive it—I have not hitherto, nor do I intend hereafter, to take any part in the matter.

In the same spirit of confidence in which your favor has been received this is confided to you. Please accept my thanks for your prompt and friendly communication.

And believe me to be with much respect,

Yours Friend & H. Servt.,

GEO. WOLF.

Hon. James Buchanan.

Although Wolf was in almost continuous public service this letter shows that he was not an office seeker.

In October following Wolf's nomination he was elected Governor by a large majority, and, on December 15th, he was inaugurated with the usual ceremonies. The period of Wolf's administration as Governor was one of the most remarkable in the history of the United States. It was signalized by the introduction and rapid development and extension of railroads and canals, of ocean navigation, of agricultural machines, anthracite coal, of the modern type of daily newspaper, of the beginning of a number of large cities, of the steady immigration from Europe, of the rise of the Abolitionists and other reformers, and the blooming of American literature. The rapid expansion of the country and the extensive change in ideas and modes of living, particularly the great commercial expansion and material development of Pennsylvania, all exercised a tremendous influence upon his administration. Without discussing in detail the various acts of his administration, it may be stated that there were three outstanding features that deserve recognition beyond all others. These were: first, internal improvements; second, law reform; and third, the establishment of the common school system.

The Erie Canal was completed in 1825 and as section after section was finished and opened to travel and the day of its completion came nearer and nearer, a mania for internal improvement swept over the state and one by one many of the long discussed projects began to take shape. Philadelphia became alarmed at the prospect of a diversion of her trade. Her western trade was seriously threatened. Thus impelled by necessity, the community went seriously to work on the problem before it, and was soon engaged in discussing

the relative merits of railroads and canals. The Pennsylvania Society for the Promotion of Internal Improvements in the Commonwealth published much information upon the subject. Forced by public feeling the Pennsylvania Legislature, 1824, empowered the Governor to appoint three commissioners to explore a route from Philadelphia to the Ohio. The Commission reported in favor of constructing a canal. The utmost interest in the work of the commissioners was manifested all over the state. A public meeting was held in January, 1824, in Philadelphia, and petitioned the Legislature not to delay the work. In May another meeting issued a call for a convention to be held at Harrisburg. Fifty-six counties sent delegates, who declared canals were needed. A Board of Canal Commissioners was established and the Legislature ordered them to proceed at once to build "The Pennsylvania Canal" at public expense, and ground was broken on July 4th, 1826.

Now that the state was seriously at work on the transportation problem, the old idea of the railroad revived, and the Canal Commissioners, in 1828, were directed to make surveys and to build a railroad from Philadelphia to Lancaster, and thence to Columbia and afterwards across the Allegheny Mountains, and in other directions. A railroad mania, aroused by the success of railroad enterprise, spread over the country. It was revolutionizing trade and commerce. The saving in time and in cost of transportation, the opening of new routes and the sure ruin of old, were alarming to the merchants in more than one ancient trade center. Everywhere the demand of the hour was greater speed and less cost in transportation, and everywhere, in cities, boroughs and counties, the demand was being satisfied regardless of the financial ability of the state and

various municipal divisions to bear the expense. By reason of these vast schemes of internal improvements the state was burdened with an immense debt and the revenues were not equal to the demand upon the treasury.

Mr. Wolf on becoming Governor plainly told the people that the true way to improve the credit of the state was to establish a system of taxation for paying the interest on the state loan. Hitherto not a word of this kind had been uttered. Bonds, mortgages, judgments and other evidences of debt, certificates of stock and even money, had never yet been taxed in Pennsylvania. But Governor Wolf asserted the time had come for imposing a light tax upon them.

In his message at the close of 1835, the Governor remarked that the system of public works in which the state had been engaged for eight years had been so far completed as to admit of transportation throughout the state, except the second track of railroad over the Allegheny Mountains, which was nearly finished. The State now had seven hundred and twenty miles in actual or prospective operation. Of this amount six hundred and one miles consisted of canals and slackwater navigation and one hundred and nineteen of railroads. The entire cost was estimated at twenty-two million, one hundred and fifteen thousand dollars, ($22,115,000). The Governor concluded his message, as follows:

Upon most of the loans negotiated for the construction of public works the State received premiums to an amount, in the main, sufficient in connection with the other revenues set apart for that purpose, to meet the payment of interest upon the whole amount of the State debt, at the respective periods when the same became due. The increase in tolls upon the public works will, it is not doubted, supply the place of premiums hereafter; and it is confidently believed that the people of no State in the Union in which public works have been constructed at public expense have been less burdened with the payment of taxes in

proportion to the extent and magnitude of the respective improvements than the people of this State have been. And such are the flattering prospects in regard to the future revenues which the Pennsylvania canals and railways will produce, that it is more than probable that after the 25th of March, 1836, taxation for these objects will not be required.

To the Governor this was a proud review of the financial side of his administration.

When Wolf became Governor there had been no general revision of the Statute Law of Pennsylvania from the year 1700; the interval consisting of accretions of about one hundred and thirty years. During that period the State had passed through two wars with the mother country, and various changes had taken place in the habits, opinions and even structure of the community. It remained for this work to be accomplished under the administration of Governor Wolf. He early recommended that this work be undertaken and on March 23rd, 1830, the Legislature adopted a resolution of six sections, authorizing a revision of the civil code, so comprehensive in its terms as to read like the production of a modern law reformer. It authorized the Governor to appoint three competent persons learned in the law, as commissioners, "to revise, collate and digest all such public acts and statutes of the civil code of this State as are general and permanent in their nature." The Governor appointed William Rawle, Thomas I. Wharton and Joel Jones as such commission. Rawle for more than fifty years had been one of the most distinguished members of the Philadelphia Bar. In speaking of his work as a member of this commission, the late Chief Justice Mitchell said: "But his most enduring and probably the most useful of all his long and useful life was as one of the three commissioners under the resolution of the Legislature of March 23rd, 1830, to revise the

statutes of the State. To this work, with unflagging interest and diligence, for six years he devoted his talents, learning and experience, with the result that in the acts passed on the recommendation of the commission, between 1832 and 1836, you have the most wisely conceived and most clearly expressed statutes in our books, and after nearly three-quarters of a century they are still the law on the most important branches of our civil legislation." Wharton was a nephew of Rawle, studied law under his uncle, served as an officer in the war of 1812, was a reporter of the decisions of the Supreme Court, a legal author and acquired a high reputation as a lawyer. Jones was of Puritan stock, a graduate of Yale, and of the celebrated Litchfield Law School. He settled in Easton, where he became a leader of the Bar. After his service on this commission he became President Judge of the District Court of Philadelphia. As a whole the commission was composed of men of the highest ability and industry, and the work committed to them was the most ambitious revision of the law ever undertaken in our Commonwealth.

To show the nature and quality of the work of the commission it may be stated that in January, 1831, it made its first report and presented two bills, one relating to registers and registers' courts, and the other relating to Orphans' Courts. In its second report, March 1, 1832, it transmitted three bills, relating to last Wills and Testaments; to the descent and distribution of estate of intestates; and to executors and administrators. Subsequently reports were made, from time to time. In all the commission submitted thirty bills covering a large proportion of the Acts and Statutes of the Civil Code of a general and permanent nature. After the lapse of almost a century, the

legislation enacted on the recommendation of this commission remains, as stated by Chief Justice Mitchell, "the most wisely conceived and clearly expressed statutes in our books." Experience has, from time to time, suggested changes, but these changes have left in the main the old statutes as recommended by the commission. Many of the reforms now suggested elsewhere were long since introduced in Pennsylvania.

But the crowning achievement of the Wolf Administration was the passing by the Legislature of an Act for the establishment of a common school system in Pennsylvania. It was not the work of a day or a year, or of any one man or set of men, but its original adoption was largely due to the courage of Governor Wolf. The principle of free education was of course not new, but our system had from the first peculiarities belonging to no other. It grew up on our own soil, the product of native forces and influences. The causes that produced it were as old as the Commonwealth, and had been gathering strength since its first settlement. The practice all through the colonial times, both with the church and neighborhood schools, was to instruct poor children gratuitously and to require all others to pay for their instruction. This practice was formulated into the articles on education incorporated into the Constitution of 1776 and 1790. For many years the State's lawmakers hoped to be able to secure universal education by simply providing for the gratuitous instruction of the poor, and long continued to make labored efforts to that end. But the sense of equality that had been engendered by free institutions was such that all attempts to educate poor children at the public expense in schools with other children or in schools by themselves completely failed.

The class distinction that had been broken up in

general society could not be preserved in the school. Poverty could deaden self-respect in few parents to the extent of allowing their children to attend schools where they were liable to be looked down upon and humiliated as an inferior class. How could a system of separate schools for indigent children be maintained? Such schools either failed outright, as in some of the countries where the experiment was tried, or they were gradually merged by the drift of circumstances into schools open to all without distinction.

Out of the failure of the efforts to educate the poor as a class arose the free school idea of educating all the children in the State at the public expense, without reference to their pecuniary condition. This remarkable evolution is the grand fact in Pennsylvania's educational history. All the Governors from Mifflin to Wolf recommended the adoption of a general system of education, but they seem to have had in mind only such a system as would fully provide for the gratuitous instruction of the poor children throughout the State, or at best a general system of free primary instruction. The Legislature reached no higher ground in its many reports, bills, discussions and enactments. Up to 1830 the great free school idea was apparently unborn in Pennsylvania, with the possible exception of a speech delivered at West Chester, by James Buchanan, in 1827, in part, as follows:

> If ever the passion of envy could be excused a man ambitious of true glory, he might almost be justified in envying the fame of that favored individual, whoever he may be, whom Providence intends to make the instrument in establishing common schools throughout this Commonwealth. His task will be arduous. He will have many difficulties to encounter, and many prejudices to overcome; but his fame will exceed that of the great Clinton, in the same proportion that mind is superior to matter. Whilst the one has erected a frail memorial, which, like everything human, must decay and perish, the other will raise a monument which

The Academy in Allen Township

shall flourish in immortal youth, and shall endure whilst the human soul continues to exist. Ages unborn, and nations yet behind, shall bless his memory.

Providence seemed to have selected George Wolf for that high post of honor. He not only made it the special object of his ambition, but he made it the cherished purpose of his administration. He ascertained by statistical reports that out of 400,000 children between five and fifteen years of age, more than 250,000 were not in school during the previous year. This fact greatly heartened him in his fight for free schools. In his first inaugural address and in his first annual message to the Legislature he boldly placed himself at the head of the forces mustering for the fight. Governor Wolf was re-elected in 1832, and at each opportunity continued his efforts to secure the passage of a free school law. By an almost unanimous vote the Legislature of 1834 passed the free school law, which was approved by the Governor on the first day of April of that year.

In the light of events that speedily followed its passage, it is probable that many members gave it their assent without a full comprehension either of the doctrine of free schools or of the provisions of the law they enacted to establish them; and it is certain that some of them were able to offer but a weak defence of their votes when they came to meet their enraged constituents. The victory of the free school men was too easily gained to be sure of its fruits without a further struggle. The enemies of the new law soon rallied in terrible force, and fiercely attacked it in all parts of the Commonwealth. For a time things looked as if they would regain all they had lost. They were supported by several classes of people and for different reasons. First came certain aristocratic families and a class that opposed all change; then came certain

religious denominations that favored parochial schools. The greatest sufferers from the severance of church and State were the German denominations, for in their case it was the breaking up of relations existing for hundreds of years and considered sacred by them and their fathers. But the bitterest enemies of free schools, those who fought them longest and hardest, were the ignorant, the narrow-minded and the penurious.

Undismayed by the storm of opposition and regardless of the hostile feeling which began to threaten him with political danger, Governor Wolf, in his message of December 3rd, 1834, took no backward step but firmly maintained the advanced position he had so long occupied and manfully stood by the new law, unpopular as it seemed. At the opening of the session of the Legislature numerous measures were introduced in the House for the modification or repeal of the school law. While these measures were progressing the Senate passed the bill repealing the law of 1834 and the House Committee on Education had, as the best mode of meeting the issue, squarely reported it as committed. A terrible battle between the free school and the anti-free school men in the House took place in the Committee of the Whole, where the bill was first considered; but the victory remained with the former, for on April 10th the committee reported the bill to the House in the shape of a substitute to the Senate Bill, which not only did not repeal the law of 1834, but actually gave it new strength by removing some of its most material defects and adding to it several provisions calculated to facilitate its practical operation. The following day was an eventful one in the history of school legislation of Pennsylvania. The school bill with its amendments came up on second reading before the House. The struggle on its passage was bitter

and prolonged through a morning, an afternoon and an evening session. At length by a vote of fifty-five yeas to thirty nays the House finally passed the amended bill. When the bill reached the Senate two alternatives were presented, either to concur in it or to suffer the Act of 1834 to remain in full force. The former was chosen and so ended the last great fight for free schools in the Legislature of Pennsylvania. Competent judges of all parties who witnessed the fight agree that it was the ability, courage and eloquence of Thaddeus Stevens, then a member from Adams County, which saved the day for universal education.

Governor Wolf was renominated for a third term, but a division in his party brought about his defeat. In Wickersham's History of Education in Pennsylvania the learned author, in discussing Wolf's defeat, says: "The heroic Wolf became a martyr to his great idea of an education for all, the poorest as well as the richest." With the true spirit of a martyr, however, he remained unshaken in his faith, and his last message contained the hopeful words: "There is every reason for confident assurance that the system will work its way into public favor and will eventually be universally accepted and approved." It is to be regretted that the heroic Wolf did not live to see realized the prophesy of Buchanan. A half century later the school children of Easton, as a tribute to his memory and services in behalf of the common school system, erected a memorial gateway leading to the common school grounds of his home city.

At the conclusion of his second term as Governor, President Van Buren appointed him First Comptroller of the Treasury; and subsequently Collector of the Port of Philadelphia, which latter office he held at the time of his death, which occurred very suddenly from

disease of the heart, on March 11th, 1840. As he was about entering the Custom House about nine o'clock in the morning, he was suddenly taken with spasms. He was carried into the building and medical aid procured, but nothing effective could be done and he died in about twenty minutes after his attack. On hearing of his death both branches of the Legislature adjourned and the United States Circuit Court then sitting also adjourned as a mark of respect. His remains were taken to Harrisburg for burial, and upon their arrival in the city both Houses of the Legislature immediately adjourned and formed into procession with Governor Porter, the Judiciary, and heads of departments, and a large number of citizens. They then proceeded to the Lutheran Church, where appropriate services were held and an eulogy was pronounced by the Rev. Dr. DeWitt, of the Presbyterian Church, after which the remains were taken to the adjoining church-yard and deposited in the tomb where slept his wife and only daughter.

As a citizen George Wolf was public spirited, kind and honorable in all his relations. Gratitude was deeply imbedded in his character, as was evidenced in his appointment of Mr. Andrews, his preceptor, at the Allen Township Academy, Clerk of the Orphans' Court of Philadelphia, and of his old legal preceptor, Mr. Ross, Judge of the Supreme Court. As a public officer he was gentle and courteous, but withal firm as a rock. He was a strong supporter of President Jackson and defended the latter's proclamation against nullification in South Carolina. He was not, however, a blind follower, for when Jackson began his crusade against the United States Bank, Governor Wolf labored in opposition, and for a renewal of its charter. As a speaker he was plain, argumentative and without flights

of fancy, and conveyed his ideas with clearness and precision. He had a large fund of that admirable talent commonly known as "common sense." As Governor he was a Pennsylvanian out and out, firm in sustaining the credit of the State, and prosecuting the works of internal improvement begun under his predecessor.

The career of Governor Wolf proves that it should be a source of pride to us that we live in a country where a man may rise from the humblest origins to the most exalted position in which his fellow countrymen can place him. If it be true that mere chance may bring about such a rise of fortune, it is at least very seldom that such can be the case. Usually it must require such rare qualities of mind and character, such richness of experience and such knowledge of men as to be more than equivalent to a great deal that is conventionally classed as training and scholarship. No man in his senses would for a moment imagine that the scholarly Sumner could ever have performed the herculean task allotted to Lincoln, the railsplitter. Men of action and men of scholarship have different types of mind. Governor Wolf was essentially a man of action. While Pennsylvania has had many able and distinguished men to fill the Governor's chair, it may be confidently stated that from the viewpoint of actual achievement George Wolf, founder of the common school system, and the son of a German immigrant, ranks high among them.

DAVID O. SAYLOR

CONTRIBUTION OF DAVID O. SAYLOR TO EARLY HISTORY OF THE PORTLAND CEMENT INDUSTRY IN AMERICA

By

BENJAMIN L. MILLER

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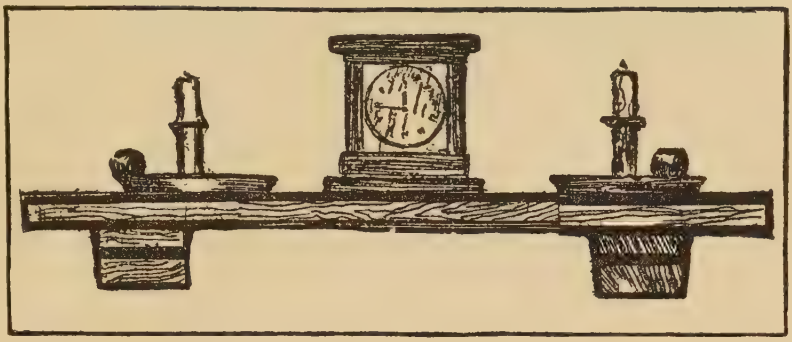

THE CONTRIBUTION OF DAVID O. SAYLOR TO EARLY HISTORY OF THE PORTLAND CEMENT INDUSTRY IN AMERICA

THE beginnings of any important industry are of general interest and particularly so when the industry attains a position where it contributes materially to the comfort and happiness of a large part of the population. The Portland cement industry belongs to this type and justly deserves to be ranked among the foremost forces contributing to the development of the present industrial age in which personal comforts and pleasures are greater than in any earlier stage of civilization. Some persons have suggested the designation of "the new stone age" for the present period because of the wide and ever-increasing use of Portland cement and imply by the use of this term an epoch comparable to the "old stone age" in the progressive development of the human family. Few of the warmest advocates of Portland cement, however, would attribute a prepon-

derating influence to this one product, although readily admitting that it has been highly important in the progress made during the last half century and promises even more for the future.

Henry Ford has frequently been called the greatest benefactor of this generation, especially by Europeans, but the automobile without good roads could not have accomplished what it has in the way of broadening and enriching human life. Of course, Portland cement is not the only good road-making material, but it certainly is the best as indicated by its increasing use for this purpose and therefore properly shares with the automobile in the advancement of transportation. The person or persons mainly responsible for the present Portland cement industry may therefore deservedly be termed the benefactors of existing and future populations.

Turning to another branch of our industrial life, we wonder what would have happened in our structural trades without Portland cement. With lumber supplies decreasing and costs increasing, some substitute was needed. Natural stone, of course, exists in enormous quantities and has the advantage of greater permanence, but is entirely too expensive for most structures because of the amount of high-priced labor required in the quarrying and dressing of the product. Iron and steel have come into more general use in building structures as this important metal industry has progressed, but they are too expensive for many purposes and also not well-suited in certain cases. Surely the coming of Portland cement was a God-send and it appears almost providential that David O. Saylor appeared on the horizon as an eager and intelligent experimentor during the days of reconstruction following the Civil War.

In order to appreciate the work of Mr. Saylor in the development of Portland cement, it is well for us to go back some years and trace the history of cement generally so that one may properly appreciate his contribution.

EARLY USE OF CEMENT

No one knows when the use of lime for mortar started, but certainly the ancient Egyptians had learned that the burning of limestone to drive off the carbon dioxide yielded a product that possessed binding properties and was accordingly valuable in the construction of walls and buildings. The ancient civilizations of the Andes were not familiar with lime, hence they were required to dress the stones for their walls much more exactly.

Centuries later came another great advance, when some of the Romans living in the vicinity of Vesuvius discovered that lime and finely divided volcanic debris produced a cement that possessed superior properties as a mortar and this product was largely substituted for lime alone. Much cement of this kind can be seen in many ancient structures throughout Italy, especially in Pompeii, where the writer recently had opportunity to examine some of the Roman cement baths discovered in the process of uncovering that ancient city. The cement shows no signs of deterioration although more than 2,000 years old, and is actually harder than most of the natural stones of that region. This cement has been called Roman or Pozzuolan cement and was not only made and used throughout Italy, but was produced in other parts of the world where volcanic ashes occur in the centuries that followed.

The next decided advance in cement manufacture was made in England, where about 1756 an engineer, John Smeaton, through experimentation succeeded in

producing a cement, made by burning impure limestone or mixtures of limestones and clay that would harden under water as mortar made from lime will not do. This was used in the building of the Eddystone light house off the coast of Cornwall, where previous attempts to build a light house had met with disaster. Following Smeaton's success, many kinds of hydraulic cements were made by engineers in France and England during the next 60 years and various patents were issued. All of these cements were similar in that the various ingredients were burned at temperatures only sufficient to drive off the carbon dioxide from the calcareous material used—limestone, chalk, or marl.

It was not until 1824 that the next important discovery was made. In that year an English bricklayer, Joseph Aspdin, produced a cement which, on hardening, suggested to him the famous Portland oolitic limestone of the Isle of Portland in the English Channel, long used for building purposes. He obtained a patent on his process and called the product Portland Cement. His essential improvement was in the burning of the chalk and clay at much higher temperatures than those formerly employed in the manufacture of the various kinds of hydraulic cement. Aspdin is generally credited as the "father of the Portland cement industry," although there is some dispute as to whether he employed the methods that are now regarded as essential for the production of Portland cement as we know the product of today, viz., the burning of the raw material to incipient vitrification. Compared with present standards it was probably a rather poor Portland cement though a distinct advance.

During the next 30 to 40 years, Portland cement manufacture extended to other European countries: first to Belgium, where a son-in-law of Aspdin carried

the process, and then to France, Germany and Austria. Improvements were being made from time to time until finally the product became recognized as superior to the natural hydraulic cements formerly used. Meanwhile, Portland cement in small shipments began to filter into America, where by good salesmanship it finally gained a foothold in competition with hydraulic natural cements made in quantity in New York, Pennsylvania and other states in the East and Middle West in spite of its greater expense. Immediately after the Civil War, the shipments increased steadily until soon foreign Portland cement became one of the widely-used structural materials.

During this expansion of the European Portland cement industry, the United States did not participate except as purchasers and users of the imported product. The reason for this apparent inertia was mainly the general belief that chalk or soft limestone such as exist in England, France, Belgium and Germany was essential for the manufacture of this new cement and the absence of these along the Atlantic border and throughout the limestone regions of the Mississippi Valley.

MANUFACTURE OF NATURAL CEMENT IN AMERICA

However, natural hydraulic cements had been produced in several places, especially in the Hudson River Valley. These were used in the construction of locks along the canals that were so extensively built during the first half of the last century.

In New York the construction of the Erie Canal in 1818-19 led to the discovery of natural hydraulic cement; in Pennsylvania the digging of the canal of the Lehigh Coal & Navigation Company accomplished the same object. Rock suitable for hydraulic cement was found just above Lehigh Gap, where Palmerton is now

located, and also at Siegfried's Bridge, (now a part of Northampton). The rock at the former locality seemed to be preferable and a cement mill was built at Lehigh Gap under the direction of the company's engineers. This was operated by Samuel Glace from 1826 to 1830 and furnished material for many of the canal locks. When the best cement rock near Lehigh Gap was exhausted, for a time material was quarried about six miles east of the Gap and hauled to the plant. However, in 1830 it was decided to abandon the mill and erect a new one at Siegfried's Bridge. In a small pamphlet by William H. Glace entitled "A Narrative of Hydraulic Cement Mined in the Lehigh Valley" the following description is given:

"Capt. Theodore H. Howell, residing at Siegfrieds, informed me that when he came there in 1837 there were four kilns erected and in operation. They were known as draw kilns, fire being placed in the eye at the bottom of the kilns, drawn at the bottom and hoisted up an incline plane or tramway and emptied into a hopper, where the stone were crushed by machinery shaped like a corn crusher, then dropped down and ground by buhr millstones, then placed in boxes or trays with handles, then transported in scows to points on canal where needed. At that time the capacity of this plant was ten barrels per day."

Natural hydraulic cement continued to be manufactured in the region as shown by the following quotation from "History of the Lehigh Valley" by M. S. Henry, published in 1860.

"On the eastern side of the river, directly opposite the village (Whitehall, now Cementon), are the extensive Hydraulic Cement Works of E. Eckert and Co. These works have been in successful operation for a number of years, and the cement (which is mined in the

neighborhood) is said to be equal in every respect to the celebrated Rosendale cement."

WORK OF DAVID O. SAYLOR

At this stage David O. Saylor enters into our narrative. The writer has been able to collect considerable information concerning the work of Mr. Saylor and his personal characteristics from published sources and from people still living who knew and worked with him. The two paragraphs following are largely taken from an obituary notice in an Allentown paper following his death on July 21, 1884:

David Oliver Saylor, of Pennsylvania German ancestry, was the son of Samuel Saylor and his wife Margaret, whose maiden name was Paules. He was born in Hanover Township, Lehigh County, October 20, 1827. The record in the family Bible says he was christened by Rev. C. L. Becker and confirmed at Christ Church, Hanover, by Rev. Joshua Yeager. As a youth he enjoyed the educational advantages afforded in those days and he gained the rudiments of a common school education. His father conducted a general country store at Butztown for some years and David, showing business capacity, assisted in its management. Later on the family removed to Schoenersville, where the father for many years kept a store. Here David also assisted and eventually relieved his father of the management. While yet a young man and in the service of his father, the burden of the business fell on him and he discharged his duties with great credit. Tiring of the store business, he disposed of it in 1865 and moved to Allentown. Here he engaged in truck farming for about a year. Up to this point he had not demonstrated any especial ability other than faithful performance of duties.

In the winter of 1866 he contemplated engaging in

the slate business with a Mr. Morgan, of Slatington, when he met Mr. Esaias Rehrig, later president of the Allentown National Bank, who spoke of the cement rock on the farm of Christian Krouse at Coplay and induced him to look at it. Mr. Lewis Knauss is also given credit for interesting Mr. Saylor in the Krouse farm by telling him that he had proved that good hydraulic cement could be made from the stone exposed along the Lehigh Valley Railroad and almost forced Mr. Saylor to go with him to examine it. The result was the purchase of the property and in the spring of 1866 the Coplay Cement Company was chartered for the manufacture of natural hydraulic cement, the stockholders being Mr. Saylor, Mr. Rehrig and Adam Woolever. Mr. Saylor was president and superintendent of the company from its organization, and its success was in no small measure due to his enterprise and determination. The concern was started on a small scale, but it grew and prospered until it was recognized as one of the leading industrial establishments in the Lehigh Valley.

It appears that Mr. Saylor displayed considerable originality as soon as he entered the cement business and carried on experiments for the purpose of improving his product. He soon took out a patent on a cement to which he gave the trade name of "Anchor" but this was still a natural cement burned at low temperatures.

Just before and during the Civil War the European cement manufacturers made many improvements in their Portland cement which they now burned to incipient vitrification. This superior cement appeared and attracted attention in this country immediately after the Civil War and came to the notice of Mr. Saylor. He and Mr. Rehrig are reported to have

started experiments to make a similar product at their plant at Coplay soon after they entered the business. Mixing high grade limestone from the lower beds exposed in their quarry with more argillaceous strata above, grinding the stone in a coffee mill and burning the mixture in the cook stove or in a blacksmith's forge, they finally succeeded in approximately duplicating the foreign Portland cement. We do not know how many failures and disappointments resulted but we learn that success was attained only after experimentation carried on for a number of years. Explanations for the failures were not always forthcoming and the rule-of-thumb method prevailed to a large extent. Ingredients were varied as well as conditions of burning and grinding. Good fortune was with Mr. Saylor in that the Coplay quarry contained stone that possessed all the elements now known to be essential to the manufacture of Portland cement and containing no injurious materials. Had the quarry yielded high magnesian stone or other undesirable material all of his efforts might have been in vain. In the later stage of his work, after promising results had been attained, a small upright kiln for still further experiments was erected at the Coplay plant. Feeling that he had perfected a practicable process, he applied for a patent in 1871. The application reads as follows:

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

David O. Saylor, of Allentown, Pennsylvania.

Improvement in the Manufacture of Cement.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 119,413, dated September 26, 1871.

To All Whom It May Concern:

Be it known that I, David O. Saylor, of Allentown, in the County of Lehigh, State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and improved cement; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will

enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same.

I have discovered that some kinds of the argillo-magnesian and also argillo-calcareous limestone found along the Appalachian range, containing more or less carbonate of lime, magnesia, silica, alumina, iron, salts, and alkalies adapted to the purpose, and which are now extensively used in the manufacturing of hydraulic cement, will make, when burned to a state of incipient vitrification, so as to be agglutinated, warped, or cracked, by contraction, and some burned to cinders, a very superior and heavy hydraulic cement, weighing from one hundred and ten pounds to one hundred and twenty pounds per bushel, and in every respect equal to the Portland cement made in England and imported into this country.

The ordinary cement now in our market such as Rosendale, Coplay, and other American brands, are burned with the least possible degree of heat. The stage of calcination is arrested before it fuses or is contracted; should any of it do so it is thrown away as worthless. This cement weighs seventy to ninety pounds per bushel. I propose to burn this stone to the condition above indicated. After this calcination a selection is made and the pulverulent and scarified portions of the mass are picked out and thrown away. The remainder is then passed through a crusher; then through a mill consisting of ordinary sand, or buhr-stone. The manufactured material is then placed in a layer of from two to three feet thick over the floor of a cool shed and left exposed to the air for about four weeks before it is fit to use.

The stone which I use for the purpose contains the same ingredients as the composition used for making Portland cement, and the products cannot be distinguished from each other except by treatment.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The process of making hydraulic cement from argillo-magnesian and argillo-calcareous limestone, substantially as herein specified and described.

2. As an improved article of manufacture, hydraulic cement produced from argillo-magnesian and argillo-calcareous limestone, substantially as herein specified and described.

DAVID O. SAYLOR.

Witnesses:
Edwin Albright
Augustus Weber.

His difficulties, however, were not at an end as he had not yet mastered the process. Some of the cement was the equal of the foreign product, but some was decidedly inferior and after a time crumbled. This was mainly due to the fact that the eye determination of the proper mixture of the stone was not sufficiently accurate, the burning was not uniform, and the grinding was not always done with sufficient care.

Notwithstanding the fact that Saylor's Portland Cement was not always uniform and satisfactory, he exhibited it at the Centennial Exposition in 1876 and received an award of merit. Saylor's first great triumph in winning recognition for his product came with the selection of Saylor's Portland Cement in the construction of the Eads Jetties at the mouth of the Mississippi River in 1878-79. Its merits were there firmly established, and thereafter success was certain.

In his further regard he was ably assisted by Mr. John W. Eckert, whom he engaged as chemist to assist in the making of chemical analyses while Eckert was still a student at Lehigh University, and in 1878 as a full time employee. Mr. Eckert became the first cement chemist in this country. Correct chemical composition soon became recognized as one of the most important attributes in the manufacture of high grade Portland cement and since that time chemists have been attached to the manufacturing staffs of all cement plants. In addition to his duties as cement chemist, Mr. Eckert was given charge of the manufacturing operations in 1879, a position which he held for several years. Some of his analyses as well as tests of Saylor's Portland Cement are published in Report DD of the Second Geological Survey of Pennsylvania, issued in 1878.

The process of manufacture used by Saylor was

simple and primitive when compared with modern practice. The ingredients were ground, mixed with water, and moulded into bricks first by hand and later by brick-making machines. These were dried naturally or by steam pipes and then placed in upright bottle-shaped kilns from 30 to 40 feet in height and from 12 feet in diameter, where the greatest bulge occurred, to about four feet at the top. At the bottom of the kiln a layer of wood was placed and then alternate layers of coke and dried bricks of the cement ingredients. These had to be carefully placed in the kilns by hand. Openings in the kilns at different levels facilitated their filling and later these were closed by brick. When the kiln was filled, the wood at the base was ignited and the burning took place.

After the burning process was ended the resulting product was taken out at the base of the kiln. Portions that had been burned to partial fusion formed large or small masses of clinker which were broken into sizes easily handled and sent to the mill for grinding. Those portions insufficiently burned were again moulded into bricks for re-burning. At times as much as 40 per cent. required further burning. For some time, the clinker was ground in a mill that was set up in an old distillery about half a mile away but later a new mill was built near the quarry and kilns.

These intermittent kilns of small capacity and requiring a large amount of hand labor were used at the Coplay plant until about 1892 or 1893, when they were replaced by the continuous upright German Schoefer kilns. A little earlier the rotary kilns developed in England were introduced by a neighboring company that later became the Atlas Portland Cement Company. The rotary kilns are now used by all the cement companies. They have undergone marked changes, espe-

cially in increased size. From a length of 24 feet they have been increased to 343 feet. The diameter has also increased from less than six feet to 10 or 12 feet in some mills.

Up to the time of Mr. Saylor's death the bottle-shaped intermittent kiln was the only type used in this country and the process of manufacture was expensive, notwithstanding cheap labor, because of the large number of men required. The best these kilns could do was to produce 150 to 200 barrels of cement every ten days, as against 15 to 20 barrels per kiln per day at present with fewer men. It was, therefore, necessary for the Coplay Company to build additional kilns and in 1882 it had 13 kilns for the manufacture of Portland cement and four for the production of Natural Anchor cement. A total production of 600 barrels per day of both kinds of cement required the services of 150 men.

Although Saylor had proved that good quality Portland cement could be made from the cement rock of Lehigh and Northampton Counties and other mills shortly started in the same vicinity, still the business was not highly profitable. It was hard to convince the users of cement that the American manufacturers had succeeded in producing Portland cement of the same quality as that imported from Europe. Naturally the importers did all they could to discredit the home product and the American Portland cement gained recognition slowly.

That Mr. Saylor lived to see only the beginnings of the American cement industry is evidenced by the fact that this country produced only 82,000 barrels of Portland cement up to 1879, while in that year alone 106,000 barrels of foreign Portland cement were imported. In 1884, the year of Saylor's death, 585,768 barrels of foreign cement were imported and only about 100,000

barrels produced in the United States. This should be compared with a production of 170,000,000 barrels produced in this country in 1927.

Mr. Saylor was married June 11, 1867, to Miss Emma M. Saeger, daughter of Eli J. Saeger, Esq., of Allentown. His domestic life was very happy, and five children blessed the union, four of whom—three daughters and one son—with the mother, survived him. He died on July 21, 1884, at the age of 56 years, 9 months. He was in poor health and inactive sometime before his death. His only sister was the wife of Adam Woolever, one of his partners. Mr. Saylor was a man of pleasing personal appearance, large in size, weighing over 200 pounds, agreeable in manner, candid and outspoken, generous and open-handed, qualities which greatly endeared him to a large circle of friends. He was an enterprising business man, took an interest in the welfare and prosperity of Allentown, his home town, and of the entire Lehigh Valley, and contributed materially to the growth and development of both.

Mr. Saylor owned a half interest in the fire-brick works of Ritter & Saylor, and was one of the leading stockholders of the Blue Vein Slate Company, of Slatington, of which he was for a time president. As a member of the Allentown Board of Trade, Mr. Saylor was distinguished for the zeal he displayed in securing to the city new enterprises. He was for many years the treasurer of the board, and he was one of the committee who visited Paterson and induced the Phoenix Manufacturing Company to establish the Adelaide Silk Mill in Allentown. He was active in securing this institution, in which he took great pride. He was a member of the Masonic order. He never sought political favors and never held office.

Mr. Saylor's contributions to the Portland cement

industry of this country are difficult to evaluate. Undoubtedly he was the moving spirit in the experiment carried on by himself and his assistants and associates and is therefore worthy of the title of "Father of the American Portland Cement Industry" even though we recognize that success was attained only through the efforts of many workers. Although he laid the foundations of an industry that has since his death made fortunes for many persons, he profited little financially and at his death is said to have been a comparatively poor man. It was not long after his death that his company and others located nearby began to realize on their investments as the merits of the American product gained recognition and many of the manufacturing difficulties were overcome. It is to be regretted that Mr. Saylor died before he could see the full fruition of his endeavors and the public approval of the product in which he had so much faith. These he might have seen and in addition profited financially had he lived the so-called allotted years of Man. It is interesting to know that his partners, Rehrig and Woolever, died about the same time, all within two years.

Since Lorado Taft, the well-known sculptor, has demonstrated the effectiveness of Portland cement in decorative monuments, what would be more appropriate than a suitable cement monument or other Portland cement structure somewhere within the Lehigh Valley to commemorate the achievements of David O. Saylor, the founder of the Portland Cement industry in America?

SAMUEL DAVID GROSS

SAMUEL DAVID GROSS, M.D., D.C.L., L.L.D.

Late Professor of Surgery in Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia

By

A. L. KOTZ, M. D.

Read before the Pennsylvania German Society at Easton, October 12, 1928

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SAMUEL DAVID GROSS, M. D., LL.D., D.C.L.

DR. GROSS was a pioneer in surgery, and, in his day, acknowledged the most eminent surgeon in America, and second to none in the world.

He was born on his father's farm, located in Forks Township, Northampton County, Pennsylvania, July 8, 1805. According to his own statement it was within two miles from Easton, and two miles from Forks Church. The exact location of the farm has not been determined, as there are no definite records to be found. The inhabitants of the community in which the family resided were Pennsylvania German, and so was the language spoken by them.

His parents were natives of the neighborhood and were of German descent, their grandparents having emigrated, as early as the seventeenth century, from the Lower Palatinate. His father, Philip Gross, was highly distinguished for his integrity, for the elegance of his farm and for the beauty of his horses. The farm embraced two hundred acres of the best land, in a high state of cultivation, with an excellent orchard, famed for its good fruit.

During the Revolutionary war, he spent time and money freely in the service of the Government, in connection with the Quartermaster's Department, at Valley Forge and other points in Eastern Pennsylvania. He died November 2, 1813, at the age of 57 years, and was buried at Salem Church, better known as Forks Church. The inscription, in German, as it appears on his tombstone in the Forks Church graveyard, is as follows:

WIER RUHET
BHILIB GROHS
ER WERD GABOHREN
DEN 5EN JUNY, 1756
UND STARB DEN 2TEN
NOVEMBER, 1813, ALT 57
JAHRE, 4 MON. U. 28 TAGA.

His mother, whose maiden name was Johanna Juliana Braun, died March, 1853, at the age of 86 years. She was a highly respected woman, a most excellent wife and mother, and a devoted member of the Lutheran Church. To his mother's training, during his childhood, he attributes his good moral and religious character.

Last Will of Philip Gross.

Dated April 8, 1813.

Executors Philip Clauss and Henry Clauss.

After the farm is sold, and out of the first payment of the purchase price thereof, he directs that the sum of 416 pounds, 13 shillings and 4 pence shall remain at interest charged on the premises, during the lifetime and widowhood of his wife, Johanna Juliana. And the interest amounting to 25 pounds, shall be paid to her annually.

To his son Abraham 5 shillings together with what he received from him before.

To his daughter Sarah, married to Christian Stout, 800 pounds 3 years after his death, to his daughter

Samuel David Gross, M. D.

Elizabeth, married to Leonard Moebus, 800 pounds 4 years after his death.

All the rest he bequeathes to three sons, Joseph, Samuel and Charles, in three equal shares, six months after his death.

He appoints the executors as guardians, to take the three sons from the care of their mother and directs them to bring them up in a decent manner, and have them instructed in reading and writing &c. And also in the Christian religion as taught by the Lutheran Church. And when they become of proper age, the said guardians shall put them out to trades of their own choice.

Dr. Gross had two sisters, Sarah and Elizabeth, and three brothers, Abraham, Joseph B. and Charles. His brother Joseph, two and a half years his senior, took up the ministerial profession, became a prominent clergyman in the Lutheran Church, and the author of a number of works on religious subjects.

Before Dr. Gross was six years of age he conceived the idea of becoming a doctor, from which he never swerved. This feeling, he thought, was probably inspired by seeing a physician at his father's house in case of sickness.

When not yet seven years of age he was sent to school—a task which he thoroughly disliked. The schoolhouse, a log cabin, nearly a mile from his home, was located in a beautiful grove of maple and oak, which also served as a playground. The teacher's name was Seiple.

Ball was the common amusement before the opening of the morning exercises, and also during the mid-day recess. He was always very fond of this sport and would leave his home early in the morning to indulge in the game before the ringing of the bell.

At first he had great difficulty with his lessons, being more intent upon play than upon study. After several weeks of balking and stammering over his lessons—he says—his mind suddenly became unlocked and he could read with ease, pronounce the proper jaw-breaking names of the Old Testament with wonderful accuracy, greatly to the surprise of his teacher and classmates. From that time on he took more interest in his studies and thought less about play.

The methods of punishment in school were three: first, a pair of leather spectacles perched upon the nose; second, a red cap suspended over the head from the ceiling; third, a veritable rod of hazelwood. The latter he considered as nothing compared with the two former. He says, upon several occasions, much to his horror, the leather spectacles were perched upon his nose, and once the red cap was suspended over his head, the result of uttering a "naughty" word. Of the rod he had no personal taste. After the red cap affair, of which he was profoundly ashamed and mortified, his conduct was greatly improved and he was never afterward summoned to the teacher's desk.

After the death of his father the old homestead was sold, his mother moved into a small rented house a few miles away, and he was placed in charge of his maternal uncle, who had taken a fancy to him. He was then in his ninth year of age.

During the time he remained with his uncle, who was very kind and indulgent to him, his chief occupations were going to school in the winter, snaring rabbits in the fall, shooting birds with the bow-gun in the spring, and playing cards with his uncle during the long winter nights. The intervening time was given to playing ball, pitching quoits and pennies, at which he was an adept. To the latter games he attributes the steadi-

ness of his hand which later served him so well in his surgical work.

Fighting bumble-bees, wasps, hornets, and yellow-jackets is a favorite pursuit with all boys on the farm, and of this he did his share, and suffered the just reward. As a boy, he was very fond of fishing, but never had much luck; after he grew older he came to the conclusion that was not without significance—"a bait and a hook at one end and a fool at the other."

The books he read during the time he was with his uncle and was greatly interested in, were the Bible, Esop's Fables, Witches of the Hartz Mountains and almanacs. He was fond of reading the Bible, and before fifteen years of age he had read it through entirely; with what understanding he does not pretend to say.

In the neighborhood, by reason of his honest, quiet, steady and thoughtful character, he was given the sobriquet of "Judge." Like most children reared in the country, he was extremely modest. He says he always blushed when he spoke to a person older than himself, and that this shyness clung to him in later years, much to his embarrassment.

During his childhood he was a firm believer in ghosts, witches, hobgoblins, devils, evil spirits and everything that was weird and supernatural, and thought that they were particularly wicked and dangerous during the night.

He would never go out at night without telling the family where he could be found in case of an attack. Whenever he passed a graveyard he would whistle to keep the ghosts away.

Dr. Gross was a lover of nature throughout his entire life, and passionately fond of flowers. When a boy of seven, he had a little garden on his father's farm

in which he cultivated the columbine, the poppy, the anemone and other wild flowers. It was a sort of fairy spot in which he spent many happy hours. Later in life he had a hothouse at his home in which he cultivated rare plants, and he was never without flowers on his office table. He knew the name of every tree, and was acquainted with the notes of every bird.

When he returned on a visit to his old home, fifty years after he had left it as a boy, he found all its beauty had disappeared. The house in which he was born, the barn and all the outbuildings were gone; the only exception was a small table near the spot of his daily playground. The orchard, in which he was fond of hunting birds' nests, was in a state of decay. It was a sad reminder of his happy youthful days.

When Gross was in his fifteenth year he left his uncle and returned to his mother, to take up some useful occupation. Various suggestions were offered, but not any of them were enticing enough for him to adopt. He wanted to be a "doctor," a pursuit he had cherished from his early childhood. His education, however, was inadequate. He had made considerable progress in the German language, but his English had been neglected. He therefore determined to take up the English language systematically and also, in due time, Latin. His progress was slow in both.

At the age of seventeen he considered himself competent to begin the study of medicine and thereupon entered the office of a country physician, who offered him no encouragement, so he tried another with the same result. This, he says, was the turning point in his life; he had made a great discovery—a knowledge of his ignorance; and with it came a solemn determination to remedy it.

He returned to school, selecting the Academy at

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., where he completed a year of study. He then went to New York and entered a classical school in the Bowery. Not satisfied with the progress he made here, at the end of six months he returned to Easton. He here met his old teacher, Mr. Joel Jones, who kindly consented to give him private instruction in Latin and Greek. Afterwards he entered the high school at Lawrenceville, N. J., where he remained the next six months and completed his studies preparatory to the study of medicine.

Dr. Gross finally engaged in the study of medicine when he was nineteen years of age. He entered the office of Dr. Joseph K. Swift, of Easton, a noted physician and surgeon of his time, and remained with him until October, 1826, when he went to Philadelphia and matriculated as a student in Jefferson Medical College, the "new school," as it was then called. At the same time he became a private pupil of Dr. George McClellan, founder of the college, and never re-entered Dr. Swift's office.

Arriving at the college a week before the opening of the session, he at once entered the dissecting room and devoted most of his time to the study of anatomy, and again after the close of the session.

The college faculty consisted of George McClellan, Surgery; N. R. Smith, Anatomy; John Eberle, Practice of Medicine; W. P. C. Barton, Materia Medica; Jacob Green, Chemistry; John Barnes, Obstetrics, and Benjamin R. Rhees, Institutes of Medicine and Medical Jurisprudence. All men of distinction.

While a pupil in the office of Dr. Swift, who had a choice collection of minerals, he too became interested and started a collection of his own. He gathered many specimens around the neighborhood and others he obtained through exchange. When he left Easton his

collection amounted to upwards of 2000 beautiful specimens.

At the end of his first year of medical studies he suffered a nervous breakdown, the result of being overworked and over-drugged. After a horseback trip, in company with his brother, to Niagara and return, requiring six weeks, his health was completely restored.

Dr. Gross received his medical degree in March, 1828. After a short visit to his mother at Easton, he returned to Philadelphia and opened an office at the corner of Library and Fifth streets and began the practice of medicine. His leisure hours, which at first were many, in order to spend them profitably and earn some money, were devoted to the translation of books. His first translation, a French work on General Anatomy by Bayle and Hollard of Paris, was completed in two months. The next work was Hatin's Manual of Obstetrics, which he completed in three weeks. The third, a German publication by Hildenbrand on Typhus Fever, was completed in two months. His fourth and last translation, Tavenier's Operative Surgery, in two octavo volumes of nearly five hundred pages each, was rendered into English in less than three months.

Having disposed of these translations he engaged in the composition of an original work entitled The Anatomy, Physiology, and Diseases of the Bones and Joints. It was an octavo volume of nearly four hundred pages, completed in a little more than three months and published in 1830. All these works were published in about eighteen months after he took his degree.

During the winter of 1828 he married Mrs. Louisa A. Dulany, a young widow with one child. Mrs. Dulany's maiden name was Weissel. The ceremony was performed by his brother, the Rev. Joseph B. Gross.

Both were very poor, his income was small and it was up-hill work. After a struggle of eighteen months they decided to return to Easton, his former home. He started into practice here and soon acquired a respectable patronage, the income of which was sufficient to meet his obligations.

In order to keep up his studies in practical anatomy, he erected a small building in the rear of his garden for a dissecting room. He then went to Philadelphia in his buggy, procured a subject, placed it alongside of himself and drove back to Easton. This he carefully dissected and took notes for his work on Practical Anatomy in which he was engaged at the time, but it was never published. He also made a number of experiments on human blood to determine the temperature and coagulation. Venesection was then much practised and furnished him with plenty of specimens for his research work. The results of these observations were published at Cincinnati, in 1835, in the second volume of the Western Medical Gazette. Next he experimented on rabbits to determine the rapidity at which certain substances, when taken into the stomach, entered the blood stream and were eliminated by the kidneys.

Soon after the organization of Lafayette College, then located in South Easton, in a rented farm house, he was elected to the chair of chemistry. This position he held until he left Easton in 1833.

On July 19, 1832, he was appointed by Town Council to visit New York and investigate the Asiatic cholera epidemic then raging in that city. After visiting the various cholera hospitals, and conferring with the leading medical men in authority as to the most approved methods of prevention and treatment, which

required about a week, he returned and made his report.

In 1833 he served as an expert in several important court trials. In the trial of Goetter for the murder of a woman Goetter had seduced, by manual strangulation, Dr. Gross made the post mortem and was the chief witness. To confirm his findings at the autopsy he made a number of experiments on animals, chiefly rabbits, by strangling them and studying the results produced on the lungs and other organs.

In the latter part of 1833 Dr. Gross was elected Demonstrator of Anatomy in the Medical College of Ohio, at Cincinnati. In October of the same year he left Easton, and with his family moved to Cincinnati, arriving there after a journey of thirteen days.

Soon after he arrived in the city he entered upon his duties at the college. In the spring, after the close of the regular session, and in the autumn before the opening of the session, he gave a course of lectures on Anatomy to a small class of students. He also became associate editor of the Western Medical Gazette.

In 1835 he resigned from the Medical College of Ohio and was elected to the chair of Pathological Anatomy in the Medical Department of the Cincinnati College, then just organized. He remained with this institution until the school was disbanded in 1839. After this he devoted his entire time to general practice, already large and lucrative.

During his residence in Cincinnati he wrote a treatise on the Elements of Pathological Anatomy, consisting of two volumes and published in 1839. It was the first work of its kind in America, and was revised in 1845 and again in 1857.

In 1839 he was appointed Professor of Medicine in the University of Virginia, which he declined.

In 1840 he was offered the chair of surgery in the Louisville Medical Institute—afterwards the Louisville University—and accepted.

Soon after his connection with this institution he began a series of experiments on dogs to determine the nature and treatment of wounds of the intestines. The results were published in a treatise entitled An Experimental and Critical Inquiry Into the Nature and Treatment of Wounds of the Intestines. Other works written by him during his residence in Louisville were: A Practical Treatise on the Diseases, Injuries and Malformations of the Urinary Bladder, the Prostate Gland and Urethra, published in 1851; and A Practical Treatise on Foreign Bodies in the Air Passage, published in 1845. The latter work was highly commended upon both at home and abroad. Beside the above, he made many contributions to medical societies and periodicals. Among the more important are the following:

In 1851, a report on Kentucky Surgery for the Kentucky State Medical Society, published in the Transactions.

In 1852, a short account on the use of adhesive plaster in the treatment of fractures, first employed by Dr. Joseph K. Swift, of Easton, published in the Philadelphia Medical Examiner.

In 1853, a comprehensive report to the American Medical Association on the Results of Surgical Operation in Malignant Diseases.

In 1856, a report to the American Medical Association on the Causes Which Retard the Progress of American Medical Literature.

In 1850, Dr. Gross was elected professor of surgery in the University of New York, and occupied the chair of surgery during the session of 1850 and 1851. At

the urgent solicitation of his former colleagues, he returned and resumed his old chair in the Louisville University.

In 1855, he was offered the chair of surgery in the University of Pennsylvania, which he declined.

In 1856, he was offered the chair of surgery in the Jefferson Medical College, his Alma Mater, and accepted.

He removed from Louisville to Philadelphia, September, 1856, after a period of sixteen years.

During his residence in Louisville he was highly esteemed and held the confidence of the people. It was here that he made his reputation as a surgeon.

He enjoyed the largest surgical practice of any physician in the Southwest and his services were sought over a large territory. His departure was generally regretted and he received many letters of protest from medical men and others.

In Philadelphia he was cordially received and soon gained the prominence he had held in Louisville. He confined his activities here to his college duties, office and consultation practice, patients from a distance and surgical operations. Generally from five to eight hours a day were devoted to his manuscript on surgery, which he had commenced several years before he left Kentucky. In the summer of 1859, the work was published under the title of System of Surgery. It consisted of two portly octavo volumes aggregating two thousand three hundred and sixty pages. The work was well received, both here and abroad, and rapidly passed through four editions. The fifth edition, greatly revised and re-written, appeared in 1872. The sixth and last edition also revised and rewritten, appeared in 1882.

In 1857, in connection with Dr. J. M. DaCosta, he

founded the Pathological Society of Philadelphia and was the first president.

In 1858, he wrote an elaborate paper on the Nature and Treatment of Tuberculosis of the Hip Joint, illustrated with dissections.

In 1861, at the outbreak of the war, he wrote, in nine days, a small work under the title of Manual of Military Surgery. This little manual was used extensively by both the Union and Confederate surgeons alike. It passed through two editions of two thousand copies each.

The same year he edited a biography entitled Lives of Eminent American Physicians and Surgeons of the Nineteenth Century in an octavo volume of over eight hundred pages.

In April, 1862, he made a visit to the battlefield of Shiloh in order to acquaint himself with the nature and treatment of gunshot injuries. In August, immediately after the battle of Bull Run, he went to Washington, Georgetown and Alexandria to inspect the hospitals and study gunshot wounds, on both occasions taking notes for his work on surgery.

In the summer of 1862, he was appointed by Surgeon General Hammond a member of a board of commissioners to investigate the merits of artificial limbs in order to furnish mutilated soldiers with proper substitutes.

Dr. Gross was a prolific writer throughout his entire medical career. His pen was never idle. Besides the various works already mentioned, he contributed many papers to medical periodicals.

He was affiliated with many learned medical organizations, both at home and abroad.

At home:—Kentucky State Medical Society; College of Physicians of Philadelphia; American Philo-

sophical Society; Massachusetts Medical Society; New York State Medical Society; Academy of Medicine of New York; Philadelphia County Medical Society; Pennsylvania State Medical Society; American Medical Association; National Association for the Protection of the Insane; American Public Health; Academy of Natural Sciences; Pathological Society of Philadelphia; Medical Jurisprudence Society of Philadelphia.

He was the originator of some of these and president, at one time or another, of many of them.

Abroad:—Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society of London; Imperial Medical Society of Vienna British Medical Association; Medico-Chirurgical Society of Edinburgh; Medical Society of Christiana; Royal Society of Public Medicine of Belgium; Clinical Society of London; Sociedad de San Luis Potosi of Mexico and Medical Society of London.

In September, 1876, he was honored with the office of president of the International Medical Congress, held in Philadelphia.

Dr. Gross had long been desirous to visit Europe, become personally acquainted with the distinguished medical men with whose names and works he had long been familiar, and to see the magnificent museums of art and sciences of the Old World.

In 1868 he made his first visit abroad, visiting all the principal medical centres, British and Continental, meeting the more eminent physicians and surgeons in charge, observing their work, and comparing them with those of American institutions. It may be here stated that he was kindly received everywhere and greatly honored.

In June, 1872, he received the degree of D. C. L. from the University of Oxford, at its one thousandth commemoration.

On August 11, 1880, he received the degree of LL. D. from the University of Cambridge.

In May, 1883, the University of Pennsylvania conferred upon him the degree of LL. D.

In April, 1884, the University of Edinburgh gave him the degree of LL. D.

Dr. Gross was brought up in the Lutheran faith, and was confirmed when fifteen years of age, in conformity with the wishes of his parents. Later, however, he joined the Unitarian Church, and was a member of that denomination the greater part of his life.

He was a strong advocate of urn burial, believing it to be the most sane and sanitary way of disposing of the body. He expressed a strong desire that his body be cremated.

His wife, to whom he was devoted, died February 27, 1876, after a lingering illness. Eight children were born to them, three daughters and five sons. Joseph, Frederick and Hunter died in infancy. Julia, the oldest, in her ninth year. Marie, Louise, Haller and Samuel survived.

March 28, 1882, Dr. Gross resigned the chair of surgery in the Jefferson Medical College. His reasons given were, advancing years and a desire to spend the remainder of his life in comparative repose. His resignation was received with regret. The Board of Trustees unanimously elected him Emeritus Professor of Surgery.

Dr. Gross died May 6, 1884, a little more than two years after his resignation from Jefferson Medical College, in his eightieth year. After an autopsy, performed by Dr. J. M. DaCosta, his body was cremated in accordance with his wish. His ashes were buried

beside the body of his wife, in Woodland Cemetery, West Philadelphia.

During the sessions of 1879-1880 and 1880-1881, it was my privilege to attend the lectures of Prof. Gross at the Jefferson Medical College, as a student. I vividly remember the grand old man, his tall stately figure, fluffy white hair, cleanly shaven and kindly face. On entering the lecture room he would greet the class with the salutation, "Gentlemen," then announce his subject and proceed with his lecture. He was always received by the students with the greatest respect; there was no applause or demonstration. A noisy reception was very distasteful to him and not tolerated. His lectures were always interesting, clear and comprehensive. He was firm in his convictions, which were founded upon long experience and study. In his lectures he endeavored to impress the students with the sanctity of the profession and urged them to conduct themselves with honor and respect. He had absolutely no sympathy for any irregularities, such as quackery, commercialism, etc., unfortunately so prevalent at the present time.

GERMANIC IMMIGRANTS

GERMANIC IMMIGRANTS NAMED IN EARLY PENNSYLVANIA SHIP LISTS

By

CHARLES R. ROBERTS

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GERMANIC IMMIGRANTS NAMED IN EARLY PENNSYLVANIA SHIP LISTS

BETWEEN the years 1683 and 1727, how many persons of Germanic origin settled in Pennsylvania will probably never be known. Some writers have estimated the number as high as 50,000. The Crefeld colony under Pastorius came in 1683. In 1694 Johannes Kelpius came with his band of 40 pietists. Daniel Falkner and others arrived in 1704. In 1705 a number of German Reformed residing between Wolfenbuettel and Halberstadt, fled to Neuwied and then to Holland, and in 1707 sailed for New York. Their ship was carried into Delaware Bay and they eventually settled along the Musconetcong and the Passaic in New Jersey, in what is now known as the German Valley. In 1708 the Kocherthal colony came to New York, most of whom afterwards came to Pennsylvania. In 1709 a colony of Swiss, principally Mennonite, settled in Lancaster county.

In September, 1717, three ships arrived at Philadel-

phia with a total of 363 Palatines. In 1719 Jonathan Dickinson wrote, "We are daily expecting ships from London which bring over palatines, in number about six or seven thousand." On August 30, 1720, the ship Laurel arrived with 240 odd Palatines. Between the years 1708 and 1720, thousands arrived.

The Provincial Council, by a resolution adopted September 14, 1727, required shipmasters to make lists of all immigrants and that the immigrants sign an oath of allegiance to the King of England. The majority of these lists are preserved in the State Library at Harrisburg. It was on March 6, 1903, that I saw these original lists for the first time. They were in the library proper, as the Department of Public Records had not yet been established.

The first ship, record of whose passengers was kept by the Colonial Government, was the William and Sarah, which actually arrived about September 12, 1727, and not September 18th, and on September 21st not more than 51 of the 317 passengers, 109 of whom were men, signed the oath of allegiance. Rev. Dr. Hinke, in Volume 27, has shown us what errors there are in the published lists.

Immigrants Named in Ship Lists

The leader of this band was Rev. George Michael Weiss, a Reformed clergyman, born in 1700 at Eppingen, in the Palatinate. Michael Diel, Rudolf Wellecker, George Kremer and Henrich Weller located in Philadelphia. Those who settled in Goshenhoppen, now Montgomery county, were John Frederick Hillegs, born in Alsace, Nov. 24, 1685, died Jan. 6, 1765; John George Welcker, born Feb. 6, 1697, died March 8, 1782; John Huth, who died suddenly in Philadelphia on Aug. 14, 1759. His funeral text was: "Mein Leben ist abgerissen

wie ein Weber spull." Michael Zimmerman and Benedict Strohm. David Schultz in his journal says that Strohm's wife died in April, 1757, and on June 14, 1757, he married again, at the age of 62, a girl of fifteen. John George Bowman, Sebastian Smith and Ulrich Stephen settled at Skippack and John George Schwab and Leonard Seltenreich in the Conestoga valley.

John or John Michael Diffenderfer, the ancestor of the founder, or one of the founders, of this society, Frank Ried Diffenderfer, was born Jan. 10, 1695, at Neresheim, near Heidelberg, in the Chur Pfalz, and died in 1778 in Lancaster county. Alexander Diefenderfer, an ancestor of the writer, died in 1768 in what is now Lehigh county. They were the sons of John Duebendorffer, born Oct. 8, 1663. The family came from Duebendorf, six miles northeast of Zurich, Switzerland, formerly Diebeldorf, anciently Tobelindorf. The family is mentioned as early as 1130 and in 1229 Cuno von Diebendorf, Knight, is mentioned in a document of the cloister at Zinckenburg as a witness.

Joseph Albright settled in Macungie township, now Lehigh county, where he died in 1744. Some of his descendants removed to Northumberland county. Daniel Levan settled in Maxatawny township, Berks county, where he died in 1777.

On the ship Adventurer, October 2, 1727, was Ulrich Rieser, born April 9, 1709, who died Sept. 9, 1784, in Lower Milford township, now Lehigh county, and John Dieter Bauman, who settled first in Marlbore township, Philadelphia county, where he operated a grist mill and about 1755 removed beyond the Blue Mountains, to Towamensing township, now Carbon county, where he died in 1762.

The ship Friendship, October 16, 1727, had among its passengers Joseph Eberhard, a native of Switzerland,

who settled in Lower Milford township, now Lehigh county, was one of the founders of the Great Swamp church and at his death in 1760 left each of his six sons a large farm. His brother, Michael Eberhard, settled just over the county line in Milford township, Bucks county, where he died in 1772.

On the ship Mortonhouse, August 24, 1728, was Clement Dunkelberger, who died in 1782 in Berks county. His son John removed to Mahanoy township, Northumberland county. Also, Henrich Wilhelm Dillinger from Wurtemberg, who settled in Bucks, now Lehigh county.

On the ship James Goodwill, Sept. 11, 1728, came Rev. John Caspar Stoever, Sr., a native of Frankenberg, in Hesse, a Lutheran clergyman, who located in Virginia, went to Europe in 1737, and died on board the vessel on his attempted return to America, and Rev. John Caspar Stoever, Jr., born at Luedorff, in Solinger Amt, Duchy Berg, in the Palatinate, Dec. 21, 1707, and died at Lebanon May 13, 1779.

Theobald Mechling, born (probably at Lambesheim in Chur Pfaltz), who settled in Lower Milford, now Lehigh county, where a descendant, a member of this society, still owns the land he took up. He died in April, 1765. Four of his sons removed to Northumberland county and many descendants reside in Western Pennsylvania and Ohio. His brother Jacob settled in Germantown.

Egidius Grim, from Wurtemberg, settled in Bucks county, in what is now Macungie township, Lehigh county, where he died in 1761.

Martin Moser settled in Montgomery county.

Philip Henry Seller settled in Philadelphia county, was an elder of the Skippack church in 1734 and died

July 8, 1769. The town of Sellersville takes its name from the family.

Frederick Scholl settled first in Philadelphia county and in 1734 in Bucks county, where Hellertown, Northampton county, now is located. He was an elder of the Lower Saucon church and died in 1754.

On the Mortonhouse, Aug. 19, 1729, was Frederick Ludwig Marsteller, from Darmstadt. He settled on the Skippack creek in New Providence township, in Philadelphia, now Montgomery county. He was one of the founders and deacons of the Lutheran church at Trappe and his name appears in Latin over the door of this, the oldest Lutheran church building in America, erected in 1743. He was a warm friend of Rev. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, who preached an English sermon at his funeral. He died October 14, 1753. His youngest son, Col. Philip Marsteller, was one of Washington's pallbearers.

Michael Weber and his wife Phillis were also passengers on this ship. He was born in the Palatinate in 1703 and settled in Bucks county, now Upper Saucon township, Lehigh county, where he died August 10, 1745, and was buried on his own land. His widow, Johanna Felicitas, subsequently married Anthony Wilhelm Boehm, eldest son of Rev. John Philip Boehm.

Wendel Wyandt, or Wieand, born July 14, 1709, at Frensheim in the Palatinate, settled in Upper Hanover township, Philadelphia county, and died there in 1787.

Michael Borst died near Lebanon in 1741. George Adam Weidel settled near Lebanon. Jacob Seller lived at Germantown.

On August 29, 1730, came the Thistle, with Peter Miller, born at Ober Amt Lautern, a graduate of Heidelberg University, and son of a Reformed minister, who, in 1735, went over to the Brethren at Ephrata, was

called Brother Jabez, and died there Sept. 25, 1796.

Valentine Griesheimer, from Lampedheim, with his wife and four children, came with a passport given at Worms on April 28, 1730. He settled in Berks county and died in Hereford township about 1759.

Peter Fetterolf, born at Wachbach, March 20, 1699, settled in Berks county and died in Hereford township, Aug. 15, 1784. Descendants of his settled in Cameron township, Northumberland county.

Abraham Transue, born in Mutterstadt, in the Palatinate, also was on board and settled in Bucks county. Rudolph Drach also settled in Bucks county.

I have here a photostat of the original signatures of the passengers on the ship Brittania, which arrived Sept. 21, 1731. At the head of the list is the name Johannes Barthalomay Rieger, Hochteutscher Prediger. He was born at Oberingelheim, in the Palatinate, Jan. 23, 1707, and attended the universities of Heidelberg and Basel, became pastor at Philadelphia and Germantown and in New Jersey. He died at Lancaster in 1769.

Matthias Smeisser, born at Rugelbach in 1715, died in York county in 1778.

Leonard Steininger settled in Northampton county and died there in 1753.

Michael Stocker, John Eigender and John and Hubertus Bartsch settled in Bucks county.

The ship Snow Lowther arrived October 14, 1731, with Casper Peter, born in 1698 in Zell, Switzerland, whose three sons are the ancestors of the large Peters family of Lehigh county.

The ship Samuel came Aug. 11, 1732. On board were John Helfrich, born in 1699, who settled in Upper Milford township, Bucks county, now Lehigh, and died Feb. 27, 1764.

Christian and Benedict Gehman, Mennonites, settled

in Bucks county, as did also John George Kleinhantz.

Jacob Gochnaur and Oswald Hostetter settled in Lancaster county.

Anastasius Uhler, born in the Palatinate about 1710, settled in Lancaster county and died at Lebanon. He was constable of Lebanon township in 1769.

The ship Pennsylvania arrived Sept. 11, 1732, with 171 passengers. Paul Ritter, born in 1713, settled in Colebrookdale, Berks county, where he died Feb. 14, 1799. Henry Ritter settled in Lower Milford township, now Lehigh county, just west of the Great Swamp Church. A section of the log over the fireplace, with the date 1739, from a house built by him, is in the possession of the Lehigh County Historical Society. He removed to Salisbury township, where he died in January, 1797. Casper Ritter settled in Bethlehem township, Northampton county, where he built a mill and died in 1792.

Paul Linsen Bigler settled in Philadelphia county.

The ship Pink Johnson arrived Sept. 19, 1732. The archives gives 110 names, this photostat shows 112. There are many errors. Behn should be Bohn, Beer, Bey, Rouse, Rausch, Coplinger, Keplinger, etc. John Moessinger settled in Bucks county. With him was his son, Michael Messinger, born Nov. 10, 1719, who settled first in Bucks county and later in Forks township, Northampton county, where he had a grist mill, became prominent and was a member of the County Committee of Observation in the Revolution. He died October 24, 1791. He was the ancestor of one of the members of our Executive Committee and has many descendants in Northampton county.

Another passenger was Andreas Oberbeck, from Oberamt Neustadt in the Palatinate, born about 1690, settled first at Skippack, where he was elder of the Re-

formed Church from 1739 to 1744; removed to Bucks county, where he died in 1765.

The first name on the list is John Steiman. He was born in 1668 at Strassburg, the son of Peter Steinman, who was married June 18, 1645, to Sara Metzgar. She was born Feb. 3, 1623. With him was his son, John George Steinman, born March 18, 1703, who settled in Philadelphia county.

John George Sehm settled in Bucks county and John Dieter settled in what is now Northampton county, where he died in 1758.

The ship Adventurer came Sept. 23, 1732. On it came Mathias Riegel, born in 1709, who settled in Lower Saucon township, the present Northampton county, where he died in 1778. George Riegel, born in 1718, settled in Bucks county, and died May 17, 1798.

Tobias Moser, born 1702, settled in Bucks, now Lehigh county, and died in 1757.

George Breiner settled in Berks county.

Baltzer Bortner, born 1695, settled in Tulpehocken township, Lancaster county, and died in 1747. His son, Jacob, born in 1722, settled in 1761 in Northumberland county and died in 1792.

Mathias Wagner, born 1709, settled in Northampton county.

The ship Loyal Judith arrived Sept. 25, 1732, with Philip Jacob Acker, born 1696, who settled in Macungie township, now Lehigh county, and Henry Acker, born in 1700, who settled in Bucks county.

The ship Dragon arrived Sept. 30, 1732. Among its passengers were Peter Mattern, an ancestor of the writer, who settled in Bucks, now Lehigh county. Some descendants settled in Upper Mahanoy township, Northumberland county.

Felix Brunner settled in Lower Milford township of the present Lehigh county, where he died in 1760.

John Adam Romich, born Feb. 3, 1689, at Ruedenstein, in the Palatinate, a Lutheran and a deacon, in 1762 joined the Moravians in Lynn township, Lehigh county, and died there July 11, 1768.

Leonard Schlosser settled in Bucks, now Lehigh county.

Tobias Bahl settled in Upper Saucon township, Lehigh county, where he died in 1759.

Jacob Dubs, a gunsmith, born Aug. 31, 1710, in Aesch, parish of Birmensdorf, Canton of Zurich, Switzerland, settled in Lower Milford township, the present Lehigh county. He was the ancestor of Rev. Dr. Joseph H. Dubbs.

The ship Pink, John and William, arrived Oct. 17, 1732. On it were Sebastian Truckenmiller, born Aug. 1, 1715, died Feb. 1, 1795. He is buried in a field, formerly his own land, in Lehigh county. Some of his descendants settled in Northumberland county. Henry Keck, from Bavaria, is the ancestor of a large Lehigh county family.

On August 17, 1733, the ship Samuel arrived. The archives give 88 males over 16 on board, with one sick, which name Rupp gives, making 89. George Ruch, Senior's age is given as 48. His tombstone states he was born in Zitzendorf, Alsace, in 1664, making him 68. He died in Whitehall township, now Lehigh county, in 1769, aged 104 years and 11 months.

John Lichtenwalner, from Kreuth, in Kolmberg, in Brandenberg was a passenger. His passport, dated April 25, 1733, is still in existence. He settled in Bucks now Lehigh county.

Peter Troxell, from Switzerland, one of the founders

of the Egypt Church, Whitehall township, Lehigh county, and who is given as church censor in 1736.

Ulrich Flickinger, born 1702, died 1792, in Whitehall township.

Michael Brobst settled in Albany township, Berks county.

Peter Beisel, whose son Peter, aged 8, became a member of the Northampton County Revolutionary Committee of Observation.

Henry Roth, born in 1688, was one of the two men who gave the land for the Salisbury Church, near Allentown.

The ship Hope arrived August 28, 1733. I have here a photostat of the original list. Rupp says there are 83 over 16; he gives 81. The archives give 79. There are really 84, with some errors in the names.

David Deshler, born in 1711, died in 1792, settled in Germantown, and became a prominent merchant, noted for his honesty and integrity. "As honest as David Deshler" became a proverb. He built the Morris Mansion in 1774, which became the headquarters of Sir William Howe in the Revolution and the residence of President Washington in 1793.

Daniel Roth, a direct ancestor of the writer, born in Switzerland in 1703, died near Allentown in 1737. His son, Hon. Peter Rhoads, reared among Quakers, was a Revolutionary patriot and judge for 30 years.

Jacob Mueckli settled in Whitehall township, and died in 1769.

John Jacob Schreiber, born in Niederbronn, Alsace, in 1699, died in 1750 in Whitehall township.

Michale, Peter and Ulrich Witmer were among the passengers. Peter Witmer, born in 1737, in Hertzheim, Nassau-Dillenberg, Prussia, who in 1766 located near

Port Treverton, Snyder county, where he died in 1793, was probably a nephew of these Witmers.

Ulrich, Jacob and Ulrich Lonagcre, Jr., settled in Philadelphia county.

Henrich, Mathias and Bernard Fegley settled in Philadelphia, now Berks county. A member of our Executive Committee descends from one of these men.

Rudolph Schneebele, Christian and Peter Eschelman, John Snabley and Jacob Burki settled in Lancaster county.

On the Brigantine Richard and Elizabeth, Sept. 28, 1733, were John Nicholas Saeger, born 1694, at Reichenbach, Bavaria, who settled in Whitehall township, Bucks county, now Lehigh, and died there in 1762.

Ulrich Burkhalter, from Switzerland, born 1693, died in 1762, in Whitehall township.

On the ship St. Andrew, Sept. 12, 1734, came the important Schwenkfelder colony, which I will not mention in detail at this time. Also Jacob Wildfang, who located in Philadelphia. Descendants are in North Carolina.

On the ship Mercury, May 29, 1735, was a colony of Swiss, headed by Rev. Maurice Goetschy, from Saletz, Switzerland. Rev. Goetschy was sick when the ship arrived and died the following day. His son, John Henry, born March 8, 1718, was a student at the Latin school at Zurich and began to preach to the Reformed settlers at the age of 17, not only at Philadelphia, but at Skippack, Goshenhoppen, Great Swamp, Egypt, Saucon, Maxatawny, Moselem, Oley, Bern and Tulpehocken. He was licensed to preach in 1737 and ordained in 1741 and became a pastor in New Jersey.

John Conrad Wuertz, born Nov. 30, 1706, in the Canton of Zurich, Switzerland, married Anna, daughter of Rev. Maurice Goetschy. He became school teacher, began preaching in 1742, was ordained in 1752 and died

at York Sept. 21, 1763.

Ulrich Arner, born in 1699 in Switzerland, settled in Bucks, now Lehigh county.

On the ship Harle, Sept. 1, 1736, was George Zeisloff, born 1709, who, with his wife and several children, was killed by Indians in Lynn township, Northampton county, now Lehigh, March 24, 1756, only two sons surviving. His house is still standing.

John Adam Schaus, born 1704, settled in Bucks county.

The ship Princess Augusta, Sept. 16, 1736, had as a passenger George Nicholas Gauger, born in 1718, who settled in Tulphehocken and whose son John Wilhelm settled in Northumberland county.

The ship Samuel, Aug. 30, 1737, brought John Troxell and his son John Peter Troxell, who was born April 3, 1719, in Switzerland, naturalized in 1748 and in 1756 built a large stone house, with a unique inscription, still standing, in which the Egypt Reformed congregation worshipped. In 1768 he sold his 410 acres and removed to Gwynedd township, Philadelphia county, where he owned a grist and a saw mill. In 1776 he removed to Maryland, where he died Jan. 25, 1799.

Frederick Eberhard, born 1697, died 1751, settled in Bucks county.

Philip Fenstermacher, born in the Palatinate Feb. 27, 1713, died in Longswamp township, Berks county, June 15, 1790.

This is the last ship list given in the Colonial Records.

The ship St. Andrew, Sept. 26, 1737, brought many who settled in Eastern Pennsylvania.

John Erdman, from Pfungstadt, Hesse Darmstadt, settled in Bucks county.

George Frederick Newhard, from Zweibruecken, born 1700, died Nov. 29, 1765, another ancestor of the

writer, settled in Whitehall township, Bucks, now Lehigh county. His brother, Michael Newhard, born Feb. 9, 1713, died March 10, 1793, settled in the northern part of the same township, and George Newhard, born 1720, died 1800, settled in Allen township, Northampton county.

Balthazar Beil settled in Upper Saucon township, Bucks, now Lehigh county, as did also John Appel, from Pfungstadt.

George Kern settled in Whitehall township and Philip Seger settled in Lehigh township, Northampton county.

Martin Kocher, born at Holtzenhausen, Nassau Dillenberg, died about 1762, settled in what is now Lehigh county.

On the ship Winter Galley, Sept. 5, 1738, came Christopher Heller, born in 1688 in Petersheim, in the Palatinate. He settled in Northampton county, where he died in 1778. With him was his son Simon Heller, born June 18, 1721, died May 20, 1785, who settled in the same county.

On the ship Glasgow, Sept. 9, 1738, were the following:

Mathias Fenstermacher, born in 1678 in the Palatinate, who settled in Berks county.

Frantz Guildner, who settled in Bucks, now Lehigh county.

John Pontius, born in 1718 in Alsace, settled in Tulpehocken, Berks county. Several of his sons were pioneers in the Buffalo Valley.

September 11, 1738, came the ship Robert and Alice, with John Nicholas Schneider, who was evidently a well educated man, as he wrote a fine hand. He settled in what is now Lehigh county, where he was a Justice of the Peace in Colonial times, when still a part of Bucks county.

The ship Queen Elizabeth arrived Sept. 16, 1738. Here were Reinhard Laubach, aged 70, and his son Christian Laubach, born 1699, died Nov. 19, 1768, who settled in Lower Saucon township, Northampton county.

Anthony Lerch, born Sept. 20, 1720, died Aug. 28, 1793; his brother Pancratius Lerch, who died in 1794, and Peter Lerch, with their father, Andreas Lerch, aged 50, who all settled in Lower Saucon.

The Thistle, Sept. 19, 1738, brought Lorentz Guth, from Zweibruecken, who settled in Whitehall township, was the founder of the Jordan Reformed Church and died in 1770.

The ship Friendship came Sept. 20, 1738, with Jacob Folmer, born in the village of Rosswog, Wurtemberg in 1698, who settled in the Schoharie valley, New York, and later followed Conrad Weiser to Tulpehocken, where he died in 1762. His son Michael located on Limestone Run, in Northumberland county, in 1773, was the organizer of Follmer Lutheran Church in Turbot township, and died Sept. 29, 1793. He bequeathed £15 to the Dutch Lutheran Church, £10 to the school building and £10 towards teaching the poor children. His son, George Jacob Follmer, settled in 1773 in Turbot township, now Montour county. He was a member of the Assembly from Northumberland county in 1776 and 1777, re-elected in 1796, 1798, 1799, 1800 and 1801. In 1799 he received 3569 votes and Simon Snyder received 3047. Both were elected, as the two highest. In 1802 he was elected State Senator and died in office Aug. 24, 1804, and is buried at the Follmer Church. During one winter of the Assembly, two or three young lawyers, a little vain of their learning, interlarded their speeches with long quotations from Latin authors. This gave offense to Jacob Follmer, who in reply, remarked that as it was the fashion to make speeches in unknown tongues, he

was to be excused if he spoke in the Delaware Indian dialect. This put an end to the Latin quotations.

On the ship Saint Andrew, Oct. 27, 1738, came John Rinehard Bene, who died in Northampton county in 1758. Michael Seider, born March 6, 1709, died Dec. 8, 1783, who settled in Upper Saucon township, then Bucks and now Lehigh county; John Nicholas Stahler, who died in September, 1794 in Northampton county, and George Bibighausen, born Sept. 3, 1708, in Elshof, in Wittgenstein.

The ship Bilander Thistle, Oct. 28, 1738, brought Conrad Merkam, who settled first in Berks county and later in Carbon county.

Peter Steckel, born 1719, settled in Whitehall township, where he died in 1784. His son, Daniel Steckel, died at Bath, Northampton county, aged 101 years and 17 days.

Samuel Eberhard Kopp, born in Lindenfingen, Wurtemberg, Jan. 8, 1700, settled in Bucks county, now Lehigh, where he died March 2, 1757.

On the ship Charming Nancy, Nov. 9, 1738, came Peter Butz, born in 1718, in Hertzogberg, Bavaria. He settled in Berks county and died March 18, 1780.

John Jacob Kuntz, born Feb. 19, 1692, at Niederbronn, Alsace, settled in Berks county. His son, Bernhard Kuntz, born Dec. 3, 1723, died July 14, 1807, settled in Northampton county. They are ancestors of one of our Executive Committee members.

On the ship Samuel, Aug. 27, 1739, came Joseph Biery, from the Canton of Bern, Switzerland, born 1703, who settled in Berks county and died in 1768. Also Casper Doll, born Feb. 2, 1724, died Feb. 4, 1793, in Plainfield township, Northampton county.

The ship Loyal Judith arrived Nov. 25, 1740, with Frederick Wilhelm Nagel, born in 1713, who settled in

Moore township, Northampton county, where he died Nov. 29, 1779.

These ship lists, up to the year 1775, if published and edited with notes as the example here given, would make a valuable addition to the history of the Pennsylvania Germans. At the July meeting of the Executive Committee I made the suggestion that this be done and that photostatic copies be made of all the lists. At the request of the Committee, I have therefore given the society this paper.

THE MILL AND THE MILLER (from a Painting)

AMONG THE OLDER MILLS

AMONG SOME OF THE OLDER MILLS IN EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA

By

H. WINSLOW FEGLEY

PUBLISHED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA GERMAN SOCIETY
1930

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Chapter I

THE establishment of the milling industry in America was very important to the early settlers, probably more so than today, when we seem to live in an era of cereals and breakfast foods.

Which group of settlers may claim the honor of having established the first flour or grist mill in America is still as much of a problem as the present riddles of who is manufacturing the best flour or baking the best bread.

However, this honor is usually credited to the plans formulated at a town meeting at Pequett, now known as New London, Connecticut, where six men were selected to build a mill which gave Governor John Winthrop and his heirs a monopoly of grist milling as long as they maintained the plant. It became so much

a profiteering concern that the mill soon came into disfavor because Winthrop leased the mill to a Mr. Rogers, whose service did not meet with approval. Consequently, Winthrop's sons set up a rival mill and Rogers retaliated by erecting a building to shut off communication between the new mill and the highway and bitter quarrels ensued. The toll customers were unable to get their grist ground and threatened to burn the mills and erect a community mill. The Winthrops purchased the interests of their rival and gave better service, after they had an experience of "popular will judgment." Thus we see that even in olden milling times people had their troubles.

This early mill at New London, with its outside waterwheel, dates back to 1660, and some New England historians give it a date as early as 1650. Whether we in Pennsylvania can discover any earlier data and take another honor from the Pilgrim Fathers remains to be seen, and if this paper can bring to light in some manner a site preceding the Winthrop mill the writer will rejoice with the milling fraternity of the Pennsylvania German communities.

The milling industry, as of yore, is still one of America's greatest business propositions. While no census figures of 1920 are available at this writing, in 1914 the United States had 10,787 establishments which did so-called merchant grinding whose products were valued at $875,496,013. These mills consumed 543,970,038 bushels of wheat, not to mention other cereals ground for feeding purposes, the latter representing 37 per cent. of all.

In this paper I do not wish to refer to historical data outside of our Keystone State, except for introductory purposes. Neither do I wish to be understood that the dates given in this paper are wholly correct, as

early owners did not keep records like our church fathers did of the religious shrines in the Pennsylvania German communities.

Every community in general had at least one old mill, established by some pioneer settler who came to this country more than two centuries ago. Germantown and Flourtown probably had the first mills. The Frankford grist mill at Frankford avenue and Nicetown lane dates back to 1696. It was originally used by the Swedes before William Penn landed, and the mill with the earliest house built in that section was deeded to Yeamans Gillingham by Penn's commissioners in 1696. In December 1777, after the Battle of Germantown, General Howe, of the British army, with 14,000 troops was repulsed by Washington with 7,000 men, through, as history tells, the strategy of Lydia Darrach. The latter visited the mill and from there took the plans of Howe's proposed attack to General Washington, stationed at Whitemarsh. The earliest mills had, as a rule, saw-mills attached to the main structure and the Frankford mill was of this type, as the settlers needed lumber so cut that they could place floors in their log cabins and barns.

The Farmers' grist mill on the Wissahickon, near Flourtown, erected in 1705, gave the community its name. To this mill the farmers of Salford and Franconia brought their wheat in knapsacks on horse-back. In this vicinity lived Christopher Yeakle, who arrived in 1734 and settled below Chestnut Hill. Although a cedar cooper, his descendants became famous as millers throughout Montgomery, Berks, Lehigh, Carbon and Schuylkill counties. Yeakle married Maria Schultz, and the Schultz family was and still is famous in the milling history of Pennsylvania.

Briefly mentioning by name and date a few of the

earlier mills, I will then take you along the Perkiomen creek from mill to mill and later speak about a few mills in counties of eastern Pennsylvania, where I had occasion, through twenty years of newspaper work, to jot down notes and dates about mills and millers as given to me by the then owners and operators. Noted among the early mills were: grist mill of Edward Lane on the Perkiomen, 1708; Norris' Egypt Mill, Norristown, 1715; Potts' on Manatawny, Pottstown, 1725; Hunsberger's on Perkiomen, 1725; the two mills on Skippack creek, near Evansburg, about 1740, and Pennypacker's on Skippack; Schuler's on Swamp creek, 1742, and the Hillegass mill on the Macoby.

Townsend's grist mill gave to Mill creek, Germantown, its name. Potts' corn mill utilized the Mingohocking. Rittenhouse erected his paper mill on Monoshone creek and now familiarly known as Paper Mill Run, while the Robesons located a saw and grist mill on the Wissahickon creek and the Livezeys and the Hinkles erected grist mills on Cresheim creek. The abundance and the good quality of the water made the Wissahickon and its tributaries especially useful to the paper makers. It was on this stream that the first two paper mills in the United States were erected. The early settlers were quick indeed to appreciate the possibilitis of the many water courses.

The first paper mill in the United States was erected in 1690 on Monoshone creek, a tributary of the Wissahickon, by a company composed of Samuel Carpenter, Robert Turner, Thomas Tresse, William Bradford and William Rittenhouse. Rittenhouse was the most important member of the company, as he was a paper maker, and he and his son Claus managed the mill for the others. In time they became sole owners. Carpenter owned the land, and by reason of this owner-

ship held an interest in the company. In 1693 he conveyed twenty acres on which the paper mill was erected to the other members of the company. Rittenhouse secured Turner's share in 1697 and Tresse's share about 1704. Bradford was the famous printer who established the first printing press in the colonies and for a long time used all the printing paper made in the mill.

In 1700 the Rittenhouses met with a great misfortune; the paper mill was washed away during a freshet, carrying with it considerable material, paper and tools. The total amount saved from the wreck amounted to about $40. This was such a great loss to the colonies that William Penn sent out a general appeal for help to rebuild, and headed the subscription with 25 pounds. In 1702 a more substantial building was erected near where the first mill stood; it was on the north side of the creek, directly back of the old Rittenhouse homestead, which is known today as the "Birthplace of David Rittenhouse," and is still standing on Lincoln Drive, Fairmount Park. Strictly speaking, the paper mill was not in Germantown but a few hundred feet from the Roxborough township line.

The Rittenhouses, though, were closely associated with the early history of the town. William Rittenhouse, the paper maker, was the first bishop of the Mennonite Church. He died in 1708 and was succeeded by his son Claus (Nicholas). In May, 1734, Claus Rittenhouse, the second paper maker in America, died. He was the grandfather of David Rittenhouse, the great astronomer. Claus Rittenhouse left the paper mill to his oldest son, William, and he left it to his son, Jacob, who was the proprietor during the Revolution. He was one of the Minute Men of 1776, who were pledged to take up arms at a minute's notice, and he went with

the Roxborough troops when the call came. They are said to have assembled in a grove in the Cresheim valley near Wissahickon creek and knelt in prayer with their loved ones, while the old men raised their voices amid the tears of the women in commending them to the protection of Almighty God. Jacob died in 1811 and the old mill came in possession of the Markles, who had married into the family. They later moved into a more modern mill.

The old mill was last used as a cotton bat factory. After the property came in possession of the Commissioners of Fairmount Park it was razed. There are now only a few foundation stones to be seen of this old landmark.

From 1690 to 1710 there was only one paper mill in America. The second was also erected in Germantown, which was four years before the Willcox mill on Chester creek, which was erected in 1714, and is often erroneously spoken of as the first paper mill.

The DeWees mill was located in the upper part of Germantown Township, known as Crefeld, on the north side of Wissahickon creek, a few hundred feet west of the old Dewees mansion that stood on the west side of the Reading pike, now Germantown avenue. In 1713 the mill and 100 acres were conveyed to Claus Rittenhouse and three others. In 1746 the property belonged to Henry Dewees, a son of William Dewees.

The Wissahickon afterwards had a number of large paper mills on its banks, of which the Megargee mill was said to have been one of the finest in the country.

Roberts' mill was on the north side of Church lane, about one mile east of Market Square, where the road crosses Mill creek. It was built in 1683 by Richard Townsend, an English millwright, who came over in 1682 in the ship "Welcome" with William Penn, who

aided in the enterprise financially. Most of the material was brought from England. This was the first grist mill about Germantown. It is often claimed to have been the oldest grist mill in Pennsylvania but

Roberts' Mill

the one at the Swedish settlement on Cobb creek antedated it about 40 years. The mill stone of the Swedes is still lying near the site of the old mill. In the testimony of Richard Townsend, dated 1727, he said: "As soon as Germantown was laid out I settled my tract of land which was about a mile from thence, where I set up a barn and a corn mill, which was very useful to the country round. But there being few horses, people generally brought their corn upon their backs, many miles. I remember one had a bull so gentle, that he used to bring the corn on his back." During

the Revolution the mill was owned by a family named Lukens. This is how Lukens Mill road, the former name of Church lane, received its name; this road was the extreme right of the British position at the battle of Germantown and considerable fighting took place here. The British were entrenched across the town along School House lane and Church lane.

In the early part of the nineteenth century the mill was purchased by Hugh Roberts and since then it was known as Roberts' Mill. The last occupant was the firm of Roberts and Heston. It was torn down in 1873, though the patriotic citizens tried to purchase it for preservation.

Saw mills were erected on the Wingohocking and Wissahickon, and at a very early date are frequently mentioned in the old deeds. The Robesons erected one at the mouth of the Wissahickon about 1700; there was also one near what is now Kitchens lane on property of Johannes Gumre. It was near this mill that the early Dunkers held their first baptisms in America.

The early settlers brought their handicraft with them; a large number were weavers. About 1830 Thomas Fisher erected the first cotton mill in Germantown and a number of English frame work knitters were imported to operate the mill, after which a number of establishments sprang up which were conducted mostly by English weavers. Germantown, besides having the credit of erecting the first paper mill in Pennsylvania, also erected the first tannery.

For the above facts about the Rittenhouse and other Germantown mills I am indebted to Dr. N. H. Keyser's History of Germantown.

Charles Prosser, of near Shrewsburg, Adams County, was perhaps the oldest miller Pennsylvania ever had. He died on March 14, 1914, aged ninety-nine years, one

Illig Mill, Lebanon Co.

Prosser's Mill, Adams Co.

month and twelve days.

The mill is on the banks of a branch of the Conewago creek, which is a tributory of the Susquehanna river. During the Civil War Prosser ran his mill day and night to furnish flour for the soldiers at Gettysburg, as the old battlefield was only sixteen miles away. The old mill where labored this veteran miller so many years is built of stone with a very odd shape, and can neither be called a one, two or three-story building. While part of it resembles either one of the three, in its entirety it represents neither, though it has three floors devoted to the milling industry.

When Prosser was 28 he married Rebecca Spahr, a fair maiden of Adams county, trained on a large farm to share the hardships of a miller during pioneer days. The union was blessed with nine children, eight of whom survived. There were also 38 grandchildren and 29 great-grandchildren and quite a few are millers today. Mrs. Prosser died 25 years before the aged miller and their daughter Sarah became the mistress of the miller's home, located near York Springs.

In Huntingdon township, of the same county, is a mill whose history dates to William Wyerman, who came to America with William Penn. Wyerman is credited with being on good terms with the Indians, and for a certain sum obtained 1,000 acres in this county on which is today the mill site of John W. Wierman. The Wiermans have been a family of millers for two centuries. The mill on the present site 140 years ago replaced one erected by the original immigrant more than 200 years ago. The construction of the windows and doors of the present mill is unique. Around the front doors on each of the three floors are small narrow windows, with two rows of panes, none larger than four by seven inches. The windows are just as peculiarly con-

structed, for the frames are in two parts, and instead of the usual even division the lower frame has only two raws and the upper section three. Above the door on the upper floor is the little triangular roof projection in which is the windlass over which the hoisting rope is wound while the grain is hoisted from the farm wagons to the various floors with water power.

The supply is from nearby springs, some of which have been noted for their medicinal value. The first sulphur spring was discovered by the Indians. The analysis showed it to contain 20 parts of epsom salts, six parts gypsum and four of common salt. Among the early guests to obtain curative results from the springs was Madame Jerome Bonaparte, nee Patterson, of Baltimore, who was so unjustly deserted by her titled husband on the coast of France.

One of the oldest mills in Adams county whose walls have crumbled into dust was McAllister's mill, which during the Civil War was a mysterious and important station of an "underground" railroad system. The mill was ten miles north of the historic Mason and Dixon line. Its history dates to 1790. The last McAllister owner was a sturdy Scotchman who was a past master in fooling Southern slave drivers.

At the outbreak of the Civil War James McAllister was an old man, but he had five stalwart sons, each of whom measured over six feet, and they all enlisted in the Union army. John McAllister was killed at Vicksburg. The others survived the war. Theodore MacAllister was a cavalry scout in the First Battalion Maryland Home Guards. When General French was requested by General Meade to select scouts acquainted with the territory in southern Pennsylvania McAllister volunteered to go alone and locate the Confederate army. William A. McIllheny, a boyhood friend of

McAllister's, accompanied him. The two scouts got within rifle shot of the Southern troops, and although discovered outclassed Southern horses with their mounts and won out in their long ride over South Mountain. It was the report of these scouts that prompted Meade to advance to Gettysburg. On the mill site beyond the mill race was a cave that served as the underground railroad entrance, from which runaway slaves emerged at night and escaped.

Chapter II

MONTGOMERY COUNTY MILLS

IN a far corner of Montgomery county, a mile or so beyond Harleysville, is a house that was once the home of a distinguished Pennsylvania German. He was none other than Henry Funk, already mentioned in connection with the Funk family as millers. Nearby stood his mill. Henry Funk was a Mennonite, a believer in the teachings of Christ as set forth by Menno Simons. He settled along Indian creek in 1719, when the country was a wilderness and when the nearest settlement was five miles away. This scholar, preacher and bishop looked after a large farm, conducted the mill, raised a family of ten children and became the author of two books.

We will not speak about his literary work, but of the mill in his charge. Today it is better known locally as Musselman's. It is somewhat changed since the days of the distinguished founder, for fire damaged it and it was partly rebuilt. Sometimes the waters of Indian creek are rather low and a steam engine is relied

Antes Mill, Montgomery Co.

Pennypacker Mill, Montgomery Co.

upon to help give the necessary power. One of the curiosities in the mill that takes one back to the days of the great miller-litterateur is a parchment deed bearing the date of 1733 to which is attached the great seal of the Province with the signature of Thomas Penn.

One of the most important mills of Revolutionary days in Montgomery county is the Antes Mill, now better known as Grubb's. This was erected prior to 1736 by Henry Antes and Frederick Heebner. It consisted of two pairs of stones to which another pair was added during the period of 1777-1778. Henry Antes, its builder, was one of the pioneer settlers of Pennsylvania. He was a millwright by trade and his mill was the first in the neighborhood. Later, Henry Antes became famous as a trader with the Indians, and this well known Pennsylvania German farmer, it is said, knew every Indian trail in the Keystone state. He learned the Indians' habits and peculiarities and became their friend. He became noted in Christianity and well known as a church worker, and was connected with the Moravians and Count Zinzendorf, and assisted in 1742 to erect one of the first church edifices in the State, known as "Gemein Haus," at Bethlehem, Pa. He died before the Revolutionary War, in 1755, but the kindly seed he had sown and the influence he had in the neighborhood helped the cause of the Revolution, to which his building was so well adapted twenty-three years later. Washington and his generals had their headquarters on the Antes mill-site and the little spring on the place, where Washington tramped from the Antes home to get a refreshing drink every morning, is still pointed out.

During the encampment of the American troops in Whitemarsh township, 1777, the old mill known as Spring Mill supplied the soldiers with flour and corn

meal, and it is said Washington often bought flour for his military family and corn for his horses from this very mill. It is still in operation.

MILLS ON THE PERKIOMEN CREEK

No stream in Pennsylvania supported more mills than the picturesque Perkiomen, with its two tributaries by the name of West Branch and East Branch. The Montgomery county palisades of the latter, on which was the late Governor Pennypacker's farm, are one of nature's wonders. I had the privilege, by the way, to photograph Mr. Pennypacker while he was Governor, and the picture was chosen by him for his History of Pennsylvania. The Perkiomen (West Branch) has its source in Hereford township, Berks county, near the village of Huffs Church.

The Perkiomen proper flows through this township for five miles in a zig-zag way, enters Lehigh county, and after winding around loop-like fashion, comes back into Hereford, and again covers the southern part of the township before it begins its long journey through the Perkiomen valley in Montgomery county. Perkiomen is an Indian name meaning "Land of Cranberries."

The waters of the Perkiomen first ran over the wheels at an old mill erected by Michael Gery, who was at one time a county official. His son, Ephraim, who died at the age of 96, conducted the mill half a century. Sons of Ephraim conducted mills on the Perkiomen and also went west and established mills in Indiana. Later grandsons worked this Pennsylvania mill. Today the mill stands on walls of a former one destroyed by fire, but it is not being actively operated.

Half a mile east the waters flow through rich meadows and reach the site known for more than a century as Christman's mill. The present proprietor is Calvin J. Christman, great-great-grandson of the

first Christman owner, Philip Christman, who purchased the property from Peter Keyser and his wife, Gertrude, on March 20, 1801. Before this the mill was in the hands of the Buzzard family and was known as "Buzzard's Mill." In 1805 Philip Christman sold the mill to his son Henry, who came from "Magunshie Thal," (Macungie Valley). In 1830 Henry sold the mill to his son Jacob. In 1850 Jacob removed the old log cabin on the homestead and seven years later tore down the old log mill, 36 by 44 feet, and erected the modern stone structure still standing. Two of Henry's sons became millers, Jacob and Jonas. Jacob had three sons who became millers, Edwin, James and Jacob, Jr., and they operated mills in Berks and Lehigh counties.

Once in a while a sad story clings to the old mills and the Christman mill was one of them. On Good Friday, 1866, Jacob Christman met his death by falling from the fourth floor of his mill with a bag of wheat. He struck a mill stone used as a step at the entrance of the first floor. His son James succeeded and at the latter's death the present owner became the miller.

Mills were great social centers in the communities and the Christman mill was one of the places where young men gathered. At this mill it was customary for the young heroes of the neighborhood to stand on top of a half bushel measure and then shoulder three bushels of grain. This accomplished, the fellow would get inside the half bushel measure, provided his feet were not too big, and do the trick all over again.

One day a young man six feet tall, with broad shoulders and muscles, came along and took three three-bushel sacks of wheat, placed one bag on one shoulder, the second bag on the other shoulder and then bridged the two bags with the third and walked up a flight of stairs to the floor above. This same man hung

what was termed in those milling days a "fifty-six" to his little finger and wrote his name on the white-washed wall.

Little streams from meadow springs have now added to the volume of the silvery Perkiomen as it enters Lehigh county and reaches what is known as Yeakel's mill. Yeakels have conducted more mills in eastern Pennsylvania in two centuries than any other family in the milling trade and the writer regrets that no complete Yeakel data is at hand. Many of the Yeakel sons were also millwrights and several used to work at this trade with the writer's grandfather, the late George Fegley. This mill, midway between Hereford, Berks county, and Sigmund, Lehigh county, and near the former charcoal furnace known as Hampden and later as Sigmund furnace, is one of the oldest on the Perkiomen. The first was erected in 1799, the year Washington died.

When John Adams was president this mill was operated by the Mensch family—millers for more than a century. During the Civil War the Yeakels became the owners and since then the late Hiram Yeakel, his son Daniel, the present owner, and the latter's son Titus have been making flour, grinding grist, cutting logs and making barn-yard rakes. The Yeakels were known among wheelwrights and millwrights as "milling cats," owing to their great skill and cleverness. It was nothing unusual for one of them to jump from the fourth story of a mill and grasp the hoisting rope and slide down. They repeatedly did this trick every evening after supper.

Hiram Yeakel had half a dozen brothers and cousins who were millers and millwrights, and the latter's numerous sons operated mills in Berks, Montgomery, Lehigh and Bucks counties. Several were expert

Christman Mill, Montgomery Co.

Kriebel Mill, Montgomery Co.

machinists and one became the inventor of a self-rake for harvesting grain and for a time contested with Hussey and McCormick and others of harvesting machinery fame the claim of being the real harvester inventor. At this mill Allen Walter conducted a thriving business for four years. Walter belongs to a family of millers and himself became a celebrity for his wit.

The Perkiomen furnished power not only for grist and flour mills but oil and clover mills as well. The only clover mill in Lehigh county was on the Perkiomen, just across the Berks county line, where clover seed was cleaned for almost a century. The little mill is one of the land-marks of today, and the farmer who owns it at present, Frank Meyer, uses it to make all his grist. It has always been known as the Old Clover Mill, and was owned for half a century by the late David Snyder. As clover was raised only for feeding the stalks to cattle and not for its seed its usefulness passed out of existence at the death of Snyder.

After furnishing power to the saw mill of Daniel N. Schultz, and aided by the waters of Silver Sand Spring, near Hereford—a spring famous for the sediment of pewter sand which gathers in great quantities at the bottom—the rippling waters of the Perkiomen reach Treichler's Mill.

From time immemorial the millstone has been a rugged type of the great grain grinding industry. Ancient history relates that the Roman women pounded cereals by means of mortar and pestle. In the Scriptures we find that among the Hebrews the art of milling was entirely in the hands of women. And ever since the days of Abraham we find that women occasionally followed the trade of millers. The Treichler mill was practically operated by a young woman for the best part of five years, namely Miss Sallie Treichler, now

Mrs. Sallie Keck. It may seem strange to the majority of the milling trade to see the foot-prints of a woman on the dusty floors of a mill but to Miss Treichler it proved second nature, as her father and grandfather were millers, five of her brothers learned the trade in the same mill and one of them operates the mill today.

The Treichlers were millers for generations and for fifty years the town of Hereford was named after them, Treichlersville, later changed to Hereford to bear the same name as the township. The mill was erected by Samuel Treichler, who also built the village store and hotel. In the store the writer spent his boyhood days and grew to manhood and he had as customers not only the Treichler milling family but such families of millers as Kriebel, Yeakel, Schultz, Snyder, Christman, Mensch, Funk, Klotz, Weigner, Knetz, Walter and Meyers, who operated mills within a radius of five miles. After Samuel Treichler's death his son David was the mill owner and when the latter died in 1878 his son David G. became the owner and father of the girl-miller of the Perkiomen. After the death of David G. the property passed to his son Jeremiah. The Treichlers came from Treichlerdorf, Holland, and first settled in New Jersey and then at Kintnersville, Bucks county, where Samuel was first engaged as a raftsman on the Delaware. He came to Hereford, Berks county, and first founded an oil mill. He died in 1865 at the age of 88. From 1890 to 1905 the mill became famous for rye-flour and the girl-miller made many a barrel, which was shipped to bakers at Allentown.

Seventy and more years ago many of the mills on the Perkiomen also ground linseed and manufactured linseed oil. Among the most famous of these was the Kriebel mill at Hereford. When the Schwenkfelders arrived in America in September 1734 they had among

them George Kriebel, who in 1740 married Susanna, daughter of Balthaser Kriebel. They had two children; one son, George, was killed while relining an old well, a stone falling on his head. George was the father of Christopher Kriebel, who married Regina, widow of Isaac Kriebel, a daughter of Rev. Melchior Schultz. Andrew Kriebel, another son of the emigrant, married into another milling family, that of Abraham Yeakel. Abraham, son of Andrew Kriebel, became a miller in Montgomery county and married Christiana, a daughter of another Abraham Kriebel. Abraham had a brother by the name of Israel, who was born September 14, 1790, and died June 14, 1860. He became the oil and grist miller of Hereford and obtained ground that was a part of the original tract purchased by John and George Steinman from Richard and John Penn at various times between 1734 and 1751.

Israel Kriebel also married into the Schultz family, Sarah, daughter of Rev. John Schultz. They became the parents of thirteen children. Among them was John, who followed the occupation of a millwright. Andrew, who became a miller and later purchased a farm adjoining the Kriebel mill tract, was the father of Rev. Dr. O. S. Kriebel, principal of Perkiomen School, Pennsburg. He died in 1876. Henry, another son, succeeded the father as miller after the latter's death. Henry died on November 10, 1893. His son, Lewis G. Kriebel, then became the owner of the mill and operated it for a score of years and the mill is now in the Schultz family and Henry S. Schultz is owner and operates it as of old. The present mill was erected in 1837. Henry Kriebel was twice married. One of the sons, by his first wife, Mary Weigner, is Howard W. Kriebel, one of the Schwenkfelder historians. Two sons by the second wife, Elizabeth Griesemer, are well

known physicians. Henry Kriebel had seven sons and two daughters who grew to manhood and womanhood, and every one of the seven sons, when necessity demanded, could operate the millstones and grind grist to perfection though only one followed the trade any length of time. While Henry Kriebel was the proprietor the mill gained fame as a linseed oil plant and the writer remembers Henry's team going twice a month to Bucks county to fetch flaxseed from the farms along the Delaware river. The heavy loads of flax were hauled in Conestoga wagons across the rough country roads with four and six horses. The Kriebel farm connected with the mill became an agricultural shrine in Berks county. On it was erected the first silo in the county and the first Holstein cattle in the county were bred here and at one time a herd of fifty to one hundred was maintained. This mill today practically remains as it was erected, only that the linseed oil stones have been removed.

We next come to Klotz's mill, lately owned by Lewis Fluck, and which for many years was best known as the Weigner mill. The full data of this mill I have been unable to get and I should be glad to have any of the Pennsylvania German Society members furnish it. The Weigner family was quite prominent in this vicinity. The members belonged to the Reformed church. Nearby they operated a pottery and for forty years it was also conducted by John Frederick and later by a Mr. Derr. The rural store-keepers got all their pots from this plant, and the Weigners sold pots into rural communities of Montgomery, Lehigh and Bucks counties as well as their home shire of Berks. At the death of Weigner the mill was purchased by Edwin Klotz, of near Alburtis, Lehigh county.

At this point of the Perkiomen another stream runs

into it, flowing through the rich and fertile Butter Valley, and only a few hundred feet away from the junction of the streams is the well known Clemmer mill, erected about 1840 on a former mill site. It is operated by James B. Funk, who was born in Washington township, Berks county, on January 17, 1845. He is a son of Philip H. Funk and grandson of Rev. Henry Funk. The first of the Funk family to come to America was Henry Funk, who emigrated from the Palatinate or Holland in 1719 and settled in Franconia township, Montgomery county, where he built a mill along Indian creek. He was an author and in connection with Dielman Kolb supervised the translation from Dutch into German on "The Martyrs' Mirror," the great historical work on the Mennonites, printed at Ephrata in 1748 and considered the largest work published in Colonial times.

James B. Funk became the son-in-law of David Clemmer, former owner of the mill. His children were schoolmates of the writer. Anna, a Mennonite missionary in India, lost her life while on her way home on the ill-fated Titanic. Ambrose, one of the sons, is sheriff of Pendleton, Oregon, and Oswin, who tills the farm, also attends to the mill hoppers, being a very valuable assistant to his father.

We retrace our steps to the banks of the Perkiomen and follow down the stream for half a mile, when we come to the well known Knetz-Lesher mill. The first owner, Conrad Knetz, was born on January 6, 1742, and died when 81 years old. He erected the first mill. At his death his grandson, David Knetz, became proprietor and at the latter's death the mill was sold to Isaac Lesher, one of the Berks county Leshers, famous in milling circles for two centuries and inter-married with the Mensches, another milling family of note. It is

still operated by Isaac Lesher. This is the first mill on the Perkiomen in Montgomery county. Its location is picturesque and only a few minutes from a State highway.

On the former Green Lane and Goshenhoppen turnpike, lately converted into a State highway, is the well known Leibert roller mill, which has seen better days. It was a bee-hive of industry for a decade, when operated by the Krauss family, of Kraussdale, Lehigh county. Fire destroyed the mill and the loss was a great burden to the owners. It was partly rebuilt and sold to the Leibert family, another milling family who moved to the Perkiomen from Lehigh county. Today the mill is owned by Louis Leibert and stands practically idle, for its roller machinery has never been replaced properly.

The Perkiomen is now quite a stream, as the Hosensack creek joined it just before the Leibert mill was reached and it winds along and speeds away from Mill Hill towards Mumbauer's mill, one of the finest mills along the banks of this well named Indian stream.

The first mill on this site was built of logs by Jacob Schultz in 1790. In 1817 this mill and the adjoining dwelling were burned and in the same year a second log mill was erected, which stood until 1849. The mill was conducted by a Mr. Eisenhard between 1835 and 1844. In the latter year the mill was purchased by Joseph Krauss. In 1849 Mr. Krauss erected the third mill on the site, as well as a dwelling and both mill and dwelling were destroyed by fire in 1890, when the mill was owned by Monroe Snyder, son-in-law of Hiram Yeakel, who had purchased the property in 1872. In 1891 Mr. Snyder erected the fourth mill and dwelling on the site and they stand today—a fine brick structure. Here for some time Hiram Yeakel, the veteran miller,

lived with his son-in-law, and conducted the mill for the son-in-law. In 1894 A. S. Mumbauer purchased the mill and conducted it until his death, except for an interval of several years when James L. Gery, son of Ephraim Gery, who conducted the mill in Hereford township, was the miller. Mr. Yeakel, while living on this mill, found an old millstone on which were carved the initials H. I. K. and the date 1735. The stone weighs about 75 pounds and has two handles on the flat surface on one side. The diameter is 26 inches and the thickness in the center four and one-half inches. This stone was used at one of the mills in the Perkiomen valley.

The next mill of importance on the Perkiomen, known as the "First Grist Mill on the Upper Perkiomen," is best known in history as the Hillegass mill and best re-called by a deed written in the presence of Ludwig Bitting, Peter Walstein, George Groner and George Shenk, which was in the possession of the late Philip Super, a well known justice of the peace of Upper Hanover township, Montgomery county. The parchment bears date February 6, 1738, and conveys from George Croner to Frederick Hillegass the Hillegass mill for 150 pounds and one wagon, besides getting in the bargain a crow-bar, two hatchets, a broad-axe, a half-bushel measure and two hogsheads and "all things nailed fast." Just at what period the mill was erected on this site is unknown, but it was before 1738. The original millstones and other machinery were imported from Germany nearly two centuries ago and it took nearly a year to transport them. The mill today is owned by James L. Overly, who moved from Westmoreland county.

Nearby is another Hillegass mill which has been in the possession of the family since 1800. In 1802 John

Hillegass built a saw mill and in 1826 Jacob and Peter Hillegass erected an oil and grist mill. This stood until 1883, when Dr. John G. Hillegass, father of the present owner, Dr. Charles Q. Hillegass, replaced it with an oil and grist mill. On Sunday, May 13, 1917, this mill, remodeled considerably and used last as a paper-board mill, was destroyed by fire. This mill, the one at Hereford, operated by Henry Kriebel, and one at Green Lane, were considered the best oil mills in eastern Pennsylvania, and the linseed oil manufactured at these three mills had no equal anywhere, in the opinion of painters. Such linseed oil under present day patent processes is unknown.

After the farmers of Marlborough township, Montgomery county, became tired of throwing their grain bags across the backs of their faithful steeds and carrying them 30 miles to Edward Farmer's mill, on the Wissahickon creek, in Whitemarsh township, Philadelphia county, they erected their first grist mill in 1742, known as the Shuler mill, on Swamp creek, a mile above the creek's junction with the Perkiomen and a mile above Sumneytown. The latter was named after Isaac Sumney, who had been a land owner in this township since 1739 and who opened a tavern in this town before the Revolution which is still standing at the fork of the Maxatawny and Macungie roads. A few years later the Maybery family erected a mill on the Perkiomen, midway between Green Lane and Perkiomenville. In 1784 Jacob Nyce built a grist mill on the east side of the Perkiomen which he sold in 1798 to Daniel Smith, who changed it into an oil mill. Powder was also manufactured here, as during the Revolutionary period and again in the Civil War times Sumneytown and vicinity were a prosperous powder manufacturing region. On January 23, 1810, Smith sold the

Treichler Mill, Montgomery Co.

Yeakel Mill, Berks Co.

mill to Matthew Campbell, and oil was manufactured until 1825, when George Poley, the new owner, changed the oil mill into a fulling and carding plant and began the manufacture of satinets, linseys and stocking-yarn. This was replaced with a more modern fulling mill in 1842 and in 1860 it was sold to Henry Betgey. Fire laid the building in ashes in 1871, but it was rebuilt and again became a grist mill and it remains so today.

While the Maybery family came from Montgomery county to Hereford township, so did the Schall family, who conducted at one time a two-story stone grist mill near Green Lane. Within one and one-half miles the Perkiomen furnished power for three mills, and in an earlier period fifteen water-wheels were turned in the same distance, the others operating forges, hammers, saw mills, oil and plaster mills.

At Perkiomenville still remains one of the largest mills along the Perkiomen. It was erected by Joseph Graff, later by Jacob Johnson and then by John H. Nyce. Most of these mills have given way to large ice dams, an industry that flourishes in the vicinity like the manufacture of powder and linseed oil a century ago.

Mills during war periods have always proved a most important factor, for the soldiers at the front cannot fight for their country if they have no bread. No mill in Pennsylvania today has a record like Pennypacker's Mill on the east bank of the Perkiomen, fronting on that historic Skippack road marked on Nicholas Scull's map of the then Province of Pennsylvania in 1759, the first general map of Pennsylvania. On this mill site flour was ground for soldiers who fought in the French and Indian war, Revolution, Civil War and most likely in the last war across the Atlantic. Only three mills in eastern Pennsylvania were built at an

earlier period than Pennypacker's: Farmer's Mill on Wissahickon creek, in 1705; Edward Lane's on the Perkiomen, near Stone Bridge, 1708, and the Norris Mill, near Norristown, probably in 1715. Pennypacker's Mill was erected in 1720 by Hans Jost Heydt. Situated on Skippack road as this mill was, the one early highway the Colonial settlers found time to construct after they had built their homes and mills and shops, it became famous not only in America but in England as well, as on all the maps prepared in London for military purposes during the Revolutionary War were Pennypacker's Mill and the Skippack Road. William Bradford in 1754 called this mill one of the important places in America. Washington made it famous because he encamped with his soldiers in front of the mill and had his headquarters in the Pennypacker's Mill mansion, where the late Governor Samuel W. Pennypacker resided when he was the chief executive of the Keystone State.

In 1717 Hans Jost Heydt owned 600 acres along the Perkiomen. On January 9, 1730, he sold the mill and tract to John Pawling for 540 pounds sterling. One of the bridges spanning the Perkiomen is named after Pawling. His heirs sold the mill to Peter Pennypacker in 1747, and in 1755 he added a fulling mill. At his death his son Samuel received it. The mill later became the property of John Z. Hunsberger. It is operated today and enjoys a fine community trade. In front of the mill stands a marker on which is inscribed: "This stone marks the camp of Washington's army, Pennypacker's Mills, Sept. 26-28; Oct. 5-8, 1777. Historical Society of Montgomery Co., Pa., Oct. 8, 1897."

With here and there a small mill, at least half a dozen, between Pennypacker's Mill and the mouth of the Perkiomen, one more has to be mentioned before the

Perkiomen flows into the Schuylkill river, the mill at Audubon, near Jeffersonville.

This historic mill stands today at the mouth of the Perkiomen in Upper Providence township only as a relic. It is more than two centuries old, and for the greater part of the last century has ground no grist. During Revolutionary days it furnished flour for the soldiers. When it was erected, I have been unable to discover, although it was a very old mill when purchased by the father of John James Audubon, the celebrated American ornithologist, in March, 1780. The deserted homestead directly opposite is claimed to have been the home of the original owner, Augustin Prevost, although many famous millers lived in it since. During the time this famous old plantation was in the possession of the Audubon family, this spot was one of the favorite haunts of John James Audubon. In the thick woods back of the miller's house and the open grove sloping down to the Perkiomen he found many of his choicest specimens while preparing his great work, "Birds of America." The Wetherill family of Philadelphia is the present owner and the old mill and the miller's home remain the same as when Audubon resided there.

One of the oldest mills in continuous use in Montgomery county is the grist plant at Sanatoga that for many years was conducted by the Reese family. It is said the mill has stood more than two centuries and it was in charge of the Reese families more than a century. John Reese, Sr., bought the property from the Ortlip estate. Reese died in 1838 and John , Jr., became the owner and changed the stone process into rolling. The first mill stood for 130 years and was used as a saw mill when destroyed by fire. This part of the site was rebuilt and is still used as a saw mill and

not connected with the older mill, where Mrs. Reese was the last operator of the Reese family.

MILLS ON THE MACOBY AND SWAMP CREEKS

In one of the most weird and romantic regions of Montgomery county, known as "Powder Valley," which extended from Sumneytown, in Montgomery county, to Finland, Bucks county, there was a bee-hive of industry along three streams—the Perkiomen, already mentioned; the Macoby and Swamp creeks—where during its earliest history was water enough to turn the water-wheels of forty mills of various types in a radius of five miles. In this early period there were rumors of wars and wars, Indian, Colonial and finally the Rebellion. This accounts that of the forty or more mill sites only four ground flour; the others manufactured powder and linseed oil. There were also gun-barrel factories and forges as neighbors. Here on the Perkiomen the first flour mill was erected by Samuel Schuler in 1742, a mill later conducted by Isaac Stetler, of whose descendants there are still a number in the community. Another mill was erected by Jacob Graff, at Perkiomenville, and was later known as the Jacob Johnson mill. Later it was owned by a Mr. Gehman and for years by William Hiestand and was last known as the John H. Nyce mill.

Sebastian Goetz, a German, became the pioneer powder manufacturer of the region. He is said to have mixed the first powder in an iron pot and ground it fine with a wooden mortar by means of a pestle operated with foot power. In 1780 the powder industry became booming under the supervision of Jacob Dash, who also operated forges along Swamp creek. Dash died in 1790 and was succeeded by Lorenz Jacoby and later by such early powder kings as William A. Jacoby, Jacob Leister, Franklin Leister, Charles Schaeffer, George

Geiger, Balser Reed, John George Moyer, Jacob Hersh and the Miller Brothers, who stayed in the business until the close of the last century and who during later years turned some of the powder mills into flour and grist mills. One of these today generates enough power to light Sumneytown with electricity and the other mill operated by Mr. Miller also operates a saw.

In Douglass township the natural or surface drainage is good and perpetual springs rise in many places, forming the headwaters of three streams, among them Swamp creek, and along its banks are old mills still doing business. John Penn, brother of William Penn, conveyed to Samuel McCall in 1735 a tract on which is the well known Himmelwright mill. The late John R. Himmelwright and his son, William K., have operated the place for more than sixty years. McCall sold the property to John Mock, progenitor of the Mock families, who are among the foremost among the Mennonites of Pennsylvania. As early as 1758 there was a mill in operation on this site. The Mock families conducted the mill for several generations when it was sold to Ezra Schultz, a well known Schwenkfelder. Ezra Schultz was the father of several sons who became millers, and after his death, one of the sons rebuilt the mill in 1840 and in 1846 it was turned over to the Himmelwright family, in whose name it still is. The Himmelwrights have been genial millers, and to none of the clan does the little verse better apply than to this:

> Happy is the miller who lives by himself—
> As the mill goes around he gains all his wealth;
> One hand on the hopper and the other in the bag,
> As the mill goes around he cries out "grab!"

Nearby is the County Line Mill, partly in Berks and Montgomery counties. The mill proper is in Berks

and has been in the hands of the Schultz family since it was established. The Schultz milling history goes back to the time Melchior, George and Christopher Schultz, pioneer Schwenkfelder brothers, came to America in 1734 from Saxony. George Schultz married into the Yeakel family and through him by generations, Abraham, Isaac, Amos, Owen, we descend to the present owner of the mill, Chester Schultz, who took over the Schultz mill when his father, Joseph K., retired.

The mill now on the site was erected in 1861 by Amos Schultz, grandfather of the present operator, and is now known as the Wave Roller Mill, rollers succeeding the stone process in 1895. It is operated by water power from the west branch of the Perkiomen.

On this same stream, a mile and a half across the Berks county line in Douglass township, is another milling industry, the West Branch Paper Mill. The writer's grandfather manufactured news print at this mill seventy-five years ago, when he furnished paper to the Welt Bote, Allentown; Bauern Freund, Pennsburg; Adler, Reading, and other German papers then very popular. The mill is in operation today, but instead of grinding rags to make white paper it makes crude wrapping paper with waste product.

Chapter III

BUCKS AND LEHIGH COUNTY MILLS

BUCKS COUNTY

EVER since that loaf of bread was baked in Italy, A. D. 79, which is exhibited in the museum at Naples, and which came from one of the curious ovens still to be seen in Pompeii, the making of bread and grinding of flour has been one of the arts of industrialism. More than eighteen centuries have rolled by, and in eastern Pennsylvania there is still a famous hunting ground for the strenuous sportsmen, among the spur of rocks called "Rocky Dale," along Richwell creek, which today is still largely in the pastoral age—the last reach of that Paradise of the early Pennsylvania German and Quaker settlers.

It is this little region among all others in the Keystone State to which all honor is due for having in its midst the oldest and also the oddest mill structure in the state. From the early period of the Redmen we trace our Pennsylvania milling history to the period

when the silvery streams were dotted with little custom mills, where the neighbors hauled their grain in the primitive Conestoga wagons, or carried it on horseback in the almost forgotten knapsack. Among such scenes we are led back to the Little Red Mill, when the land upon which it stood for more than two centuries belonged to William Penn's commissioners.

It is impossible to ascertain the exact age of the structure, but from what the old deeds convey this mill stood in some form on its present site more than two centuries. On its floors all the wheat of the western part of Bucks county was ground, as well as all the other cereals those primitive fathers deemed proper to grind. Under the same roof was conducted by the same owner a woolen mill, to which the same farmers who patronized the flour mill brought their wool, clipped from their sheep, and got the same made into that old-fashioned cloth grandmother calls to this day "our homespun." How long this little mill served the triple purpose as a flour, grist and woolen mill is not known, but the oldest inhabitants in the neighborhood told the writer twenty years ago that in 1830 wool was still carded and flour made by Henry Dietz.

This little mill is primitive in all its details. There was, some twenty years ago, the tiny outside water-wheel, with the pen-stock on the outside, so rarely seen nowadays. Here, too, was ground corn-meal to produce that famous dish of the Pennsylvania Germans, "mush and milk." It was of the gold old kind that our grandmothers loved to cook, and that had the right flavor and proved far superior to the present day granulated type.

Bucks county for many years also boasted of a woman miller in Matilda Cressman. Her father and grandfather were millers at Pleasant Valley. The

THE RED MILL, BUCKS CO.

mill, I believe, stands today, is more than 100 years old and is considered one of the most charming sites in the State. Matilda's father, Peter Cressman, was deaf and for many years an invalid, and she volunteered to operate the mill. Her grandfather was Peter Cressman, who was the first operator at the mill of this family. She inherited the strength of her forefathers and was able to shoulder a two-bushel bag of wheat with ease. This mill had a monopoly and got its patronage from Springtown, Gehman and Pleasant Valley. It was erected by Christian Cressman, according to a paper read by Miss Carrie S. Kulp on Old Time Grist Mills before the Buckwampum Historical and Litherary Association, from whose paper I quote some additional data concerning mills in this county. At present the mill is operated by Titus Cressman.

Cobb's creek, better known as Durham creek, had along its banks seven grist mills. In primitive times shad used to find its way into these waters from the Delaware. The creek's source is in Springfield township, on the southern slope of Flint Hill, land owned by Peter Bealer.

The first mill along the headwaters, known as the Hess mill, was last operated by Ralph Hess. Close by is the mill operated by Leidy Kratz and owned by Dr. M. H. Weaver. These sites were once the property of John Gruver, and he divided them among three children, two sons getting the mills and the land between the mills being bequeathed to a daughter, Mrs. John Hoffman. A dispute arose between the sons Peter and John, and the result was that one added a grist mill to his saw mill and the other retaliated by adding a saw mill to his grist mill and merry co-operation turned into bitter competition. Peter Gruver's son, Josiah, sold the mill to Ralph Hess, in 1865, and John Gruver

sold his mill to Peter Geisinger, who bequeathed it to his daughter, who sold it to Dr. Weaver.

A little farther down this stream Jacob Geisinger operated a mill which later was sold to Henry Eisenhart. The Geisingers were Mennonites and some carried the milling and farming industries to Lehigh county.

Paul Apple, who was born in Germany in 1726 and came to America when a young man, built a mill on this creek at a date unknown. However, at his death his son John became the owner. Later Silas Apple, a grandson of the original mill builder, was the proprietor and he rebuilt the plant in 1878. On the chimney near the roof was a German rhyme which asked God's blessing and protection on the mill and its inmates. Later the mill was sold in turn to Samuel Mann and Benjamin Achey.

Farther down the stream Isaac and Andrew Apple operate a mill owned by Samuel Hawk. Elias Beidelman is credited with having built the first mill on this site in 1759. It was rebuilt by Frank Ruth in 1844 and Samuel Hawk became the owner in 1869.

Near Springtown is a mill said to be the first erected in Springfield township, by Peter Twining in 1738, on land at one time owned by Casper Wisler. In 1763 Twining sold the mill to Abraham Funk, ancestor of the later owner, H. S. Funk. A new mill was erected in 1872 to replace the one erected in 1869, which was destroyed by fire. The Funk family was closely intermarried with the Treichler families, who established mills in Berks county.

Another well known milling family was the Ziegenfuss, who erected a mill on Cobb's creek which later was operated by the Houpt family. The third mill stands today near the sites of the first and second.

Among other early mills in Springfield township were those of Richard Davies, as early as 1747, and Felty Clymer, 1749.

Anthony Lerch, cutting wood during the booming days of Durham furnace, was met by a party of surveyors, who asked him where they could get whiskey. He replied that Bethlehem was the nearest place. The surveyors replied: "Fetch us a jug full, and while you are gone we will survey a farm for you." Lerch got the whiskey and the surveyors gave him a farm in exchange. On February 12, 1775, he obtained a patent for 232 acres in Saucon, and on this site was the first mill in the community. His son, Anthony Lerch, Jr., sold it to John Leidy, of Franconia township, Montgomery county, in 1796.

Before 1765 Christian Laubach built a mill on Laubach's creek, a tributary of the Saucon. The water power of both the Lerch and Laubach mills was greatly aided by the building of what is known today as the "little race," made possible through the engineering skill of the Lerch millers, who harnessed to Laubach's creek another stream by this method. After the death of John Leidy the Lerch mill was owned by Ricklein, George Appligate, Mr. Moore, Oliver Myers, Mr. Harris, Mr. Ruch, John Kunsman, Jr., and others.

Another stream well known for mill-sites is the Neshaminy and a descriptive history of its mills is given in Volume II, Proceedings of the Bucks County Historical Society. A brief mention of the older mills is not out of place in this paper:

The Darrah mill was erected in 1783. The land dates back to a warrant of May 26, 1864, when James Boyden, of London, was the owner. In 1741 the Boyden heirs sold the land to Thomas Howell, of Philadelphia. The next owner was John Griffith, and Thomas

McCane purchased the mill site in 1761. Other owners were: John Carr, Colonel Joseph Hart, Colonel William Hart, Josiah Hart, Benjamin F. Wright, Captain William Hart, John Polk and John M. Darrah, who rebuilt the mill in 1861. Among millers who worked here were: Jacob Slack, Samuel Pool, Charles Briggs, Samuel Hugh and Joseph M. Kirk.

On the west branch of this stream we find Mearns' upper mill, erected before 1777, to which was added an oil mill and tan yard between 1777 and 1782. This mill has been in the Mearns family since 1729, passing by inheritance from one generation to another.

Then there is Mearns' lower mill, half a mile away. In 1858 the lower mill passed from the Mearns family to that of Clark and Lewis Ross, who rebuilt the mill on this site in 1869. Through accident Lewis Ross lost his life in 1893 and the mill was sold to Charles F. Kindred, of Philadelphia. The first mill was erected in 1780 and the ruins are still to be seen. At both mills flax seed was ground, a trade that most of the Bucks county mills followed.

In Warrington township, on the same stream, is Long's mill. The present one was erected in 1855 by Hugh Long. The first is supposed to have been built by Andrew Long, an immigrant from Ireland, born in 1691. His son, William, born 1727; his grandson, Hugh, and his great-grandsons, William and Thomas, successively owned the farm and mill site.

LEHIGH COUNTY

Like Berks and Montgomery counties, Lehigh has its "Powder Valley," through which runs a small stream known as Indian creek which enters the Perkiomen creek just across the Berks county line near Palm, in Montgomery county. This stream, about seven miles long, has a number of old and important mills.

The Clover Mill, Lehigh Co.

The West Branch Paper Mill, Montgomery Co.

The mill last owned by Sylvester Reinhard was erected in 1740. Who built the first mill is not exactly known. In 1790, however, Jacob Schantz became the owner and put up an addition. Later owners were: John Gehman, William Christman, Tilghman Stahl, Henry Stauffer, J. Reese, Jacob Schantz, Charles Miller, J. Kline, John Miller and Jonathan Stahler. Henry Stauffer was the tenant longest, spending 35 years of his life in the mill.

Almost a century and a half ago an enterprising man named Trump noted the wasting of Indian creek through the Powder Valley and built the first linseed oil and grist mill, which later also became a factory to make kegs for nails and then powder, conducted by Michael and Samuel Miller. The next owner was A. Y. Schultz, who sold the mill to Samuel Miller and Son, who again sold the mill into the Schultz family to R. G. Schultz, a son of the former owner. This mill has never been idle. Later other by-products were manufactured in connection with flour, such as spokes, axe-handles and bushel crates to ship potatoes and apples and also a cider mill.

When Indian creek and the Hosensack were harnessed with big dams for the ice producing industry, new mills were erected, among them the Hancock at the Powder Valley ice dam, now conducted by Oswin S. Stahl, and for a time in the hands of A. L. Oberholtzer and Charles Miller.

Daniel K. Knauss, a Lehigh county miller, died at the age of 96, with one exception the oldest miller in Pennsylvania. He, however, had another honor, not claimed by another, as the oldest member of the Grand Army of the Republic at the time of his death, October, 1915. He was born at Cedarville, Pa., on January 4, 1820. His father was a miller and Knauss learned

the trade when only 16 and conducted mills in Pennsylvania and Kansas.

Near the Powder Valley is the Hosensack Valley, through which runs Hosensack creek. Hosensack Thal, it was known a century ago, and the saying is that one dark night a traveler got lost and he remarked that it was as "dunkle os wie im en hosen-sock," ("dark as in a trouser's pocket,") hence the name Hosensack. On this stream are a number of mills, and among the older ones were the Gummery and Weinberger plants. The Weinberger was of the four run type, with wheels 22 feet high of the overshot style, five feet wide. This later passed to Daniel Yeakle, a descendant of the famous Yeakle millers. The Schultz family also conducted a mill on this stream whose history dates back almost two centuries.

At Dillingersville, Lehigh county, the home of one of the county's earliest historians, the late Philip Flores, a mill was erected in 1787 by the Dubbs family of millers, descendants of emigrants who came to America from Switzerland in 1730, and who were also skilld as gunsmiths and mechanics. They were engaged in manufacturing firearms for the Continental Army and conducted grist and flour mills and cider presses and manufactured hardware and cutlery. Their family history goes back to the fifteenth century. They were prominent in literature, art and science and a number became noted preachers. William Dubbs, a member of this clan, was the owner of the mill for many years and also became famous as a collector of Indian stones. The mill had two sets of stones, a twenty-two foot water wheel. It was rebuilt in 1856.

Chapter IV

BERKS COUNTY MILLS

THERE was a time, and not so very long ago, when there were still fifty flour and grist mills operating in Berks county, and most of these were founded by our Pennsylvania German forefathers. Many are doing business today.

The title of being the first site is claimed for a number. Data is rather incomplete and the question is still unsolved. Among one of the oldest is Wamsher's Mill in Exeter township.

The first mill in Exeter was built by George Boone, grandfather of Daniel Boone, Kentucky pioneer. The mill was a two-story stone structure on the banks of the Manatawny creek. It is said the Boone family operated it as early as 1726.

The Wamsher mill was erected in 1768 on the banks of Antietam creek by George Henton. The deed for the site dates back to October 10, 1651, when John Beckley purchased the property of the Penns. Transferred a number of times, it came into the possession of George

Boone and Nicholas Scull in 1716. Henton put up the first flour mill on the place, it is said, after 1761, and in 1769 Henton sold it to John Bishop and it was then known as Bishop's Mill. Later the mill was conducted by George and Daniel Bishop, Amos Esterly, Isaac Herbein, Jonas Esterly, Nicholas Jones, Thomas Mull, George Ammon, Jacob C. Hertzog, Mrs. Maggie O. Leinbach and George H. Wamsher. The original mill was destroyed by fire while owned by Thomas Mull and it was reconstructed on the old foundation walls.

In April, 1780, General Washington directed the Executive Council to furnish from Reading 200 barrels of flour, 180 tons of hay and 14,000 bushels of corn. Forty tons of this flour was furnished from John Bishop's mill. Throughout the Revolutionary war this mill furnished lots of flour for the Continental Army.

The Evans mill along the Wyomissing creek, erected in 1767, now known as Mengel's Mill, also ground flour for the Revolutionary soldiers and some of the product was conveyed in Conestoga wagons to Valley Forge.

Along the Tulpehocken, so-called because the Indians named this stream "Tulpewihaki," signifying "Land of Turtles," are the Cross Keys Mills, wherein before revolutionary days dwelt the Ganawese or Piscataway Indians, who came to this region from the Potomac. Their chief was Ullaloes, and they were in the vicinity as early as 1705 and others remained until 1735, when the Zerbe family were millers in the region. John Zerbe, who then wrote his name "Servey," exchanged corn with the Indians for tobacco. Zerbe by warrant took up 250 acres on April 22, 1736, which contained one-half of a peninsula formed by a big bend of the Tulpehocken. The original mill site is not used today; the present mill is located nearby. For more than a century the Zerbe family has been milling here,

Cross Keys Mill, Berks Co.

Lower Kalbach Mill, Berks Co.

father, son and grandson. John Zerbe married Susanna Gruber, daughter of Albright Gruber and grand-daughter of Christian Gruber. Mrs. Zerbe was a robust woman and when the walls of the mill were about completed she carried the capstone from the ground to the top and placed the stone in position. In 1892, the millstones were removed and rollers introduced.

This mill during the days of the Union canal was one of the busy commercial spots in the county. The Zerbes owned their own boat and the flour was conveyed to Philadelphia by the Union and Schuylkill canals and Delaware river. The trip took the greater part of a week. Commercial products were brought back on the return trip, such as lime, gypsum and merchandise, for the local merchants.

In 1883 the mill was conveyed to Jacob D. Sunday, a member of a milling family with a history of 130 years. The Sunday ancestor was Hendrik Sondagh, who landed in Philadelphia on October 2, 1741, in the ship St. Andrew. He settled along the Blue mountains, where in 1753 a son Christopher was born who served in the Revolutionary War as private in the Sixth Company, Third Battalion, Northampton County Militia. In 1790 Christopher Sontag owned a mill on the Maidencreek, or Ontelaunee, in Berks county, named Cross Keys. Before the day women wore hoopskirts there was a fashion in existence among the proprietors of country inns to give their hotel a name, such as Black Horse, Black Bear, White Horse, Bald Eagle, Red Lion, King George and Cross Keys. In front of the hotel near the mill was a post twenty feet high with an oval shaped sign containing a picturc of two keys crossing in the center, and this hotel name became also the name of the mill nearby. Near the Boone mill was

a hotel that bore the name of Red Lion.

In the spring of 1723 thirty-three families moved to Pennsylvania from the Schoharie Valley and settled along the Tulpehocken and succeeded the Indians, whose chief was Sassoonan. The Tulpehocken region not only embraced the waters of this stream by the same name but its tributaries like the Northkill, Little Northkill, Plum Creek, Cacoosing and other little streams. Milling was one of the chief industries and among one of the earlier mills along the creek was the Hiester Mill, also known as Bechtel's Mill and last as the Pleasant Valley Mill. When the first plant was erected at this spot is unknown, but the old mill first erected was remodeled in 1839, during the booming days of the Union canal, when in one month as many as 125 canal boats passed in one direction. At various times this mill was owned by F. C. Bechtel, Jonathan B. Miller, J. D. and Sarah Hiester and E. B. Frey. It is one of the booming roller flour mills along the Tulpehocken today, as the old burr stones were removed a score of years ago.

Among the old mills that fire turned into ashes several years ago was the Tulpehocken Roller Mill, last operated by Kulp Brothers, descendants of a family of millers with a half century's history. This mill was first erected in 1813 by a Mr. Zug and later operated by Samuel Wertz. During the latter's day it became one of the milling factors in eastern Pennsylvania and Wertzs have been millers for more than a century and still cling to the trade like flour dust to the miller's garment. Samuel Wertz was succeeded by his son Edward, who conducted the mill for years.

A little farther up the stream is the Kalbach mill, which has been remodeled and its waters harnessed to furnish electric lights to the town of Bernville. For

half a century it was owned by Harrison Kalbach, who also owned the Stoudt mill on the same stream.

In the vicinity of these mills an industry developed that brought forth the old Union canal and the grinding of flour was not only an occupation for the needs of the respective communities within a narrow radius of each mill but became a commercial problem of the day. Flour was produced that was shipped to Philadelphia and New York markets by the Union canal and grain warehouses were erected along the stream. One or two of these stood along the banks of the Tulpehocken and Union canal until very recently, and one is still near Bernville, I think. The milling history was a prominent feature when Bernville celebrated its Old Home Week, a decade ago. Since then an old tinsmith shop in that very town has been turned into a grist mill, but waterpower is an unknown factor, as the power used comes from the electric current of the Kalbach mill.

The Marion Mills, named after the township of Marion, located on the Tulpehocken near Stouchsburg, are in close proximity to the Spycker home where Benjamin and Peter Spycker resided, and where Conrad Weiser, friend of the Indians, gathered his forces in October, 1755, before marching against a band of troublesome redskins on the banks of a neighboring stream, the Swatara. Like the old mill, the homestead is still standing. On this site used to be an old fashioned clover mill, built by the late Peter Sheetz. The first grist mill was erected by Adam Klopp, and it was rebuilt and operated by Augustus Burkholder, and on April 1, 1889, became the property of Jeremiah W. Royer. He has built another mill on the property and the Marion Mills is not a misnomer.

Mr. Royer is a direct descendant of the Royer

family who came to America in 1720, when Sebastian Royer and his four sons settled along the banks of the Schuylkill river and founded the town of Royersford. Many of the Royers became octogenarians, one, Samuel, dying at the age of 99 years, 10 months and 20 days. The miller's father, Benjamin Royer, was 77 when he died. His mother was Mary Ann White Royer, who died at 76.

The custom prevailing today in the Netherlands, farmers living under the same roof that shelters their cattle, may never have been followed in the Keystone State to a great extent; but now and then there used to be a mill that also housed the miller and his family. Among the pioneer mills of this type was Peter's in Oley township, on a branch of Bieber creek, a tributary of the Manatawny.

The first mill erected on this site dates back to 1742, twenty-two years after the township was established, as its history dates from 1720, a period when the Moravians and the French Huguenots came to Berks county in great numbers, buying farmland and establishing trades. A man by the name of Snappold was one of the early settlers, and he erected a little mill, long known as the "corn mill," because for a long time it ground nothing but corn. This mill stood until 1761, when another of the original settlers, John Hoch, erected a mill fifty feet from where stood the little corn mill. It was a one-story structure, not as long as the present building, but the latter really had its inception in the mill erected by Hoch, as when it was later built the original Hoch structure was left intact and the rest of the mill added, so that Peter's mill of today is 159 years old. There was only one change made, in 1830, when Solomon Peter so rearranged the mill and enlarged it that he and his family could live

Snyder–Sensenig Mill, Berks Co.

Rear View of Anthony Mill, Berks Co.

and do business under one roof. In 1790 the mill was owned by Casper Maul, who ground flour on mill stones quarried in Lancaster county, although mill-stones were available from hills nearby. Before 1730 this mill was known by the name of the owner, and from 1730 to this date the name Peter has remained.

Solomon Peter was the father of a large family, which accounts for the large mill, because half of the long structure was devoted to the family. All his sons learned the trade. Daniel Y. Peter was the last owner and he added a cider mill which was one of the largest of the improved type in the county some thirty years ago and the cider squeezed from apples before the San Jose scale period helped to keep the apple-butter parties in old Berks in full glory at least a decade. After the Peter family left Levi Angstadt, who had learned the milling trade from the Peter forefathers, became the owner.

Another mill of the dwelling type is near Dale, along the west branch of the Perkiomen, known as Anthony's Mill. No other in Berks has been better preserved. It is in a community historic during the charcoal furnace days, forge hammers and lime kilns and where cannon balls were made during the War of 1812. One of the large mill stones bears the date of 1793, and it is believed a mill was here much earlier. In this building the miller's wife can step from the kitchen to the mill and get her flour from the stone ready to turn into waffles when she returns to her own abode where she is master of all she surveys. Every part of the old water wheel, 12½ feet in diameter, is of wood construction. For almost a life time Mr. and Mrs. Edward Anthony conducted the mill and the veteran miller won the laurels of having manufactured the best old fashioned corn-meal in the county.

Mr. and Mrs. Anthony almost reached the 90th milestone of life's journey before being called to their home where the last toll of the miller is paid. The former was the son of Jacob Anthony, of Weisenberg township, Lehigh county, who was a miller and well known as "Honest Jacob." The Anthonys bought the mill in 1831 from the Steltz estate. Edward L. Anthony became a full-fledged miller at the age of fifteen, served early in life in the Civil War and then returned to the mill hopper, where he met a farmer's daughter who brought wheat to grind and the result was that he fell deeply in love with the apron strings that he almost mistook for the strings to tie the flour bags. This miss was Anna Dotterer, daughter of Matthias and Kate Herb Dotterer, and she died the oldest miller's wife in Pennsylvania.

On this same stream, west branch of the Perkiomen, for a century stood Rush's mill, founded by John Hunter during pioneer days. Nearby was a quarry that became famous for whetstones, and the few Rush whetstones still in existence are as highly valued by folks who don't believe in safety razors as ladies prize their diamonds. No better stones were ever quarried for sharpening razors and cutlery. Some have became heirlooms in the families of residents of Hereford, Washington and Colebrookdale townships, Berks county. One of the stones owned by my grandfather is still giving good service and now is in my possession.

We are getting back home to the place where the west branch of the Perkiomen rises, near the spring that starts the waters of the main Perkiomen. Here is what has been known for many years as Mensch's mill and a shrine in the industrial world of Pennsylvania. On this site Thomas Maybery had his charcoal furnace and the first stove of its kind was cast in 1767.

The mill history of this place goes back to the days of the Indians. In the middle of the stream, a few steps of the charcoal furnace site and within hailing distance of the present grist mill, is an old Indian mill and the pestle of this or upper grinding mill-stone was found by the present owner, Adam Mensch, years ago. The rippling stream changed its course somewhat, and that is why the nether Indian millstone is now in mid-stream. The Indians are supposed to have used this mill to grind their corn.

The first English settler to come to Hereford township, which bears an English name, was Thomas Maybury. The settlement of the township by the Pennsylvania Germans dates back to 1732, when they became next door neighbors of the Indians. The mill has been known first as the Indian Mill and later as Mensch's Mill. For many years it was operated by the Mensch family and the present owner, Adam Mensch, retired from an active miller's life some years ago. The windows of the mill represent the old Colonial style, found in the majority of the ancient mills, divided into two sections and each having six or eight panes. It has also the old style double doors, which proved of no inconvenience to long-legged millers, as they simply opened the upper half and swung their extremities in good style over the other half of the door, without going to the trouble of opening both.

When Jacob Levan, a Huguenot, came from France by way of Holland, between 1712 and 1727, he finally drifted to the Manatawny region in Berks county and immediately reversed a golden rule and instead of first building a dwelling place erected a saw mill and then a flour mill, which has since become famous in milling as well as religious circles. It is believed the mill was erected between 1739 and 1740, but work was started

in 1732. The first settlement in the Manatawny region was as early as 1712. Led by an old Indian trail from the Oley valley, he found this ideal place for a mill along Mill creek, a powerful little stream flowing from somewhere along the Blue mountains. He soon became prominent in his new neighborhood, for in 1752 he was elected justice of the peace, an office he held until his death in 1763. His oldest son, Sebastian, became a member of the provincial convention of Pennsylvania, held in Philadelphia, January 23, 1775. He was an ardent patriot and colonel of militia during part of the Revolutionary War. He was charged with the task of disarming the Tories and accounting for the arms taken, and this so endeared him to his people that he became a famous character locally.

The mansion here erected by Levan was patterned after those found in northern France. This house was torn down after being used for 104 years. Its cellar was roofed by a large arch, which covered a spring of water. So well was this arch constructed that the workmen scarcely knew how to raze it. This mill was also of the family type, as one end was the abode of the miller's family, while Levan lived in the mansion nearby. This pioneer mill had a porch projecting from the second story, and when the mill was remodeled the front was placed at the gable end and the porch side kept intact. On this little porch Count Zinzendorf preached during 1741 and 1742, as well as later, and he also preached during rainy weather in the Levan barn in 1742 to large audiences, people coming on horseback many miles to hear this pioneer Moravian preacher. The Levan family belonged to the Reformed church but admired Zinzendorf. Five generations of Levans were raised on this mill site and became millers, and for historic values they have kept the

INTERIOR OF LEVAN'S MILL

LEVAN'S MILL, BERKS CO.

interior woodwork intact as in the days of Zinzendorf. The mansion near by became a kind of poor-house, and poor folks were well cared for up to 1800.

Levan was very popular with the Indians, and while there were no hostile ones nearby, some lived in Allemangel, better known as "All Wants," now called Albany township, who were very much feared by the white settlers. But Levan held peace with all of them, and long after all others were gone the last survivor, "Kneebuckle" was a frequent visitor at Levan's mill and home, where he was well provided with food. He used to entertain the Levan family with Indian songs and war whoops, and long after his death there were some superstitious people who seemed to think that they saw the Indian in his spirit make the accustomed rounds and hear him whoop. The scenes of Levan's Mill were well depicted when Kutztown celebrated its centennial.

Levan's Mill was not the only one in Berks county that served as a church. The little stone structure at Stony Point, now better known as Dryville, on Beaver creek, Berks county, has a similar distinction. When beavers were still building dams in Berks county with timbers they gnawed down along the banks of streams, a creek in the county was named after them. Beaver creek was not a very large stream, but it had water power sufficient to support half a dozen mills before reaching the Manatawny. The settlers in the vicinity came from Switzerland and Alsace-Lorraine. They became well known for their industrial pursuits and started mills, furnaces, forges, woolen and oil mills. Here the history of the first church and first flour mill, both constructed of logs, moved along together. In 1747 the first mill was erected and so was the first church. Seventeen years later the second church was

built and soon after another mill structure took the first mill's place. The third church, known as Mertz's Church, was built in 1798. In 1810 the third mill followed.

Between 1820 and 1825 the last church was remodeled and while this work was going on, the quaint old mill structure became the place for conducting some of the religious work. The preacher was Rev. John Knoske, a Lutheran who came from Herrenstadt, Schleswig, Germany, and preached in eastern Pennsylvania from 1802 to 1849, serving from six to eight congregations in Berks county. In the corner of this little mill, where the miller had his office, was Knoske's temporary pulpit and here he gave fatherly advice to the parents and children. The congregation numbered about 100 members, but not all attended at one time so the little mill was large enough for the occasion. Knoske was a hard church worker and considered the wit of the community. It was while he was conducting a catechetical class in the small office of the mill that the Berks county lads, always full of tricks, noticed a knot-hole in the board partition. One used to push his thumb through this hole at every lecture, and with his thumb nail raise a curious sound upon the outside of the board partition. A companion stole out of the room and bit into the thumb. The harder the inside fellow pulled to release his thumb the harder his companion bit and the former began to yell. Mr. Knoske had to stop his lecture and find what was going on. Then he changed his arguments and the lad with the injured thumb got a chance at the biter and gave him a good thrashing. It is said the pastor was well satisfied with the day's experience.

However, the boys were not satisfied and the thumb hole victim thought even a licking was not sufficient

punishment and that there was a chance for more fun. So at the next weekly gathering he kept on playing his thumb nail trick and the chastised fellow thought he would bite again. However, at the psychological moment he bit in the wrong thumb, for the boy on the inside, whose name, it is said, was John Roth, instead of pushing his thumb through the hole pushed the tail of a tom-cat, the miller's pet, which he had smuggled into the room under his coat, through the hole and the lad on the outside bit fiercely and Roth had to let the cat drop, as the feline began to scratch and mew. The class was dismissed abruptly with a different lecture than what Knoske had intended to give. Many other tales were told by the white-haired residents of episodes in this mill. The last owner has been Frank H. Brintzenhoff, who, as justice of the peace, also used the office for judicial purposes of Rockland township.

No mill in Berks county has more historical surroundings than the Snyder mill in Exeter township, now owned by S. H. Sensenig. The former owners were Schneiders and Snyders for more than a century and their customers in primitive days, among others, were antecedents of the Lincoln and Boone families.

This little mill is on the Monocacy, a small tributary of the Schuylkill river. The first mill was erected before 1800 and the Snyder clan owned and operated mills here between 1800 and 1902, when the late William H. Snyder sold the plant to Mr. Sensenig. The Schneiders were one of the first Pennsylvania German families to settle in the community, outside of the Lincoln, Boone and Hanks families. Within a mile of this historic mill is the Lincoln homestead, where Mordecai Lincoln, great-great-grandfather of Abraham Lincoln, resided. The second historic shrine near the mill was the Hanks home. Nancy Hanks, wife of

Thomas Lincoln, and mother of the president, was the granddaughter of John Hanks. He left the same community in 1750 and settled in Virginia. The third shrine was none other than the home of Squire Boone (Squire was not a title, but his Christian name). It was erected about 1730, of logs in the shape of a fort, with windows like port holes. When Daniel Boone in 1781 and 1788 came to Exeter township to visit his birthplace, he called at the Snyder homestead, at a period when the first mill was erected, and since it has been remodeled several times.

Hans Schneider was the first American miller of this family. He was born in Switzerland and came to America in 1716 when nine years old. He purchased the mill tract in 1734. His two sons, John Jacob and Peter, became the owners of the father's estate and Peter's son Daniel became the miller later in life and he was the father of William H. Snyder, last owner of the mill, born on February 8, 1827.

When this long-time miller was a boy, there prevailed a custom in this community to turn all the corn into chop and feed it to the steers, fattening them and selling them each spring. Having no markets in the mill vicinities, the herds had to be driven to New York City, 131 miles, which task usually took ten or more days. On one of these trips during a dark night, while crossing over the Passaic river, one of the steers got on the wrong part of the bridge. While trying to correct the steer's course, Snyder fell from the bridge and seriously injured a foot. He hobbled into New York City and up Broadway hatless and coatless to follow the herd and meet his partners. They sold the steers for forty and twenty dollars each, having met a poor market. Sensenig, the present owner, used to conduct a mill on the Conestoga near Ephrata and he

is a miller of good standing.

Among the millers of long ago none was more eminent than the Trexler families, who were also owners of charcoal furnaces.

Peter Trexler, the emigrant, came from the Palatinate. Just when he came is not known, but he appears as a petitioner for the erection of the township of Oley, in Berks county, 1720. He moved from that county into Lehigh and became the first white settler in the Macungie valley, through which the Little Lehigh stream flowed through rich meadows, and located at what is now Breiningsville, where in 1729 he obtained a deed from Casper Wister, one of the first deeds granted in the county. Casper Wister was the owner of much land in Longswamp township. Peter Trexler died in 1758, leaving three sons and three daughters. Peter, the eldest, became the owner of the original homestead. His brother Jeremiah founded Trexlertown, Lehigh county.

Peter was an influential citizen, a justice of the peace, one of the first three county commissioners and later became a trustee of the William Parsons School at Easton, a forerunner of Lafayette College. Peter married Gertrude Kemp Winck, and their descendants were seven children, 62 grandchildren and 79 great-grandchildren. At that time this was a sufficient number to settle any one of the larger townships of Lehigh county—a feat practically accomplished, as their eldest son, also named Peter, went back to the county where his grandfather first settled, Berks, and in Longswamp township founded a settlement, originally called "Trexler-thal," Trexler's Valley, which extended from this township to Trexlertown in Lehigh county. All along the Little Lehigh the Trexlers operated mills, furnaces, founderies, tanneries and

general stores and through marriage and inter-marriage formed such a mighty host that today there is hardly any family in Longswamp and adjoining townships that could not rightfully attend a Trexler family reunion.

This Peter Trexler became known as the Mertztown Trexler and was also called Hom Trexler, because his name was John Peter and because his sons founded the town of Mertztown, near the Trexler Mill, which has since been called the Longswamp mill. Hom Peter was a patriot of the Revolution, serving as captain of the Fifth Company of Colonel Breinig's second battalion of militia. In 1782 he was elected a commissioner of Berks county and from 1785 to 1788 he was a member of the General Assembly of Pennsylvania. Up to this time all the Trexlers mentioned were millers, because, in one primitive way or another, they ground all the corn and buckwheat raised from the new tilled soil in their communities.

This Mertztown Peter married Catherine Grim, granddaughter of Gettie Grim, American ancestor of the Grim family, who for more than two centuries were millers and tanners. One of the mills in Berks county is still owned by the children of William K. Grim, late of Boyertown. They were parents of eleven children, and while there was among these another John Peter, the milling trade was handed down to the fourth child, Reuben, born in 1782, who married Anna, daughter of Jacob Lesher, another milling family already mentioned. This Lesher was the father of the charcoal business in eastern Pennsylvania, having placed in operation a charcoal furnace a few squares away from the Trexler mill in 1797. This he owned and operated until 1808, when his son-in-law, Reuben Trexler, purchased it. Far and wide it was known as "Sally Ann

Furnace," named after the founders' wives.

Beyond this furnace the father-in-law, Lesher, established at the same time a little mill. Reuben Trexler purchased this as well as a mill nearby, which was used exclusively for grinding gypsum, which at that time was one of the first commercial fertilizers of Pennsylvania farmers. Both mills are standing today.

Reuben Trexler was the father of three sons and two daughters, and Colonel William Trexler and his brother Horatio became the owners of the mill. When Horatio moved from the mill site, his brother William purchased all his interests and took full charge, owning every industry in the town. William Trexler married twice. It was a custom at that time in this community for farmers to marry the daughters of farmers, tanners to marry the daughters of tanners, millers to marry the daughters of millers—provided, however, the lovers of two such families could agree. Colonel Trexler, having so many trades, had no trouble in finding a life partner. He chose the tanning trade for the first experience and married Miss Mary Ann Singmaster, of Macungie township, Lehigh county, daughter of John Singmaster, tanner and farmer. They lived happily for 35 years. Mrs. Trexler left ten children, a few of whom survive.

Longswamp never had a more popular miller. Everybody liked the Colonel and he gave every man a "square deal," whether an employe or a customer; whether he sold iron to be turned into cast iron stoves or whether he brought corn, wheat or rye to the mill to be turned into grist. He beautified not only his own home but believed in the advancement of his fellowmen in his home locality. He was elected a justice of the peace in a township noted for four-to-one Demo-

cratic majorities, although he was a staunch Republican. For fifty-three years he was postmaster of Longswamp. He held every office in the gift of the township and was never defeated.

At his death in 1905 the mill was sold. Late in the Colonel's life it was operated by his sons Alvin and William. The last owners were C. M. Reinert and William B. Trout, the latter an old miller and millwright.

Among the shrines in Berks milling circles is the Merkel Mill on Moselem creek in Richmond township. The Merkel family is of French origin and the name has been Americanized. Two centuries ago it was spelled "Mercklen," "Mercklin" or "Merklen." John Christian Merklen was born in 1678 and came to America in 1732, one of the early Alsatian emigrants to Pennsylvania. Arriving in Philadelphia, he traversed the Skippack, Goshenhoppen and Longswamp valleys, and as he was ready to step into the Tulpehocken region, then literally covered with Indians, he was charmed with the waters of Moselem Creek (pronounced Mo-sill-im), an Indian word, "Machilamehanne," meaning a trout stream. So he located at the doorway of the Maxatawny, which led into the Tulpehocken region and called his place Moselem Springs, the name of a town close by. Here the family acquired 1,300 acres, later settled by three of his brothers.

Tradition has it that the four brothers at one time made a trip on horseback through the Maxatawny valley to explore the land which they called, "The Flat," and which was all located in the present Richmond township. At that period, the date being given as 1742, wild geese were found in great numbers along Moselem Creek, it being their hatching place. These geese, it is said, attracted the pioneer riders, who had

Merkel's Mill, Berks Co.

Trexler Mill, Berks Co.

pitched their tents along the banks of the stream, and who later cooked geese eggs for their dinner. The fact that wild geese were discovered so early along this stream reminds the writer that when the last Merkel owner had the mill, a stray lot of wild geese on one of their flights from the northland to warmer climes spent a few hours on the Merkel dam. Augustus Merkel, who was a good marksman, fired several shots at the flock and succeeded in slightly crippling half a dozen. Their wings were clipped and they were raised with the other barnyard fowls. They mated and laid eggs and young geese were raised, the first joint of their wings always being severed, so that they could not fly away. The flock increased to about fifty and for many years this flock was the "star" attraction at the Merkel mill. They also served as a true weather barometer. Whenever they left the waters of the mill dam and came to the barn, it was a sure sign or cold or stormy weather. In autumn they would always ascend on a nearby hill and attempt to fly away, but they fell down the precipice in the attempt none the worse for their experience.

John Christian Merkel died in 1766, the father of a large family. His son Christian became a commissioner of Berks county from 1767 to 1770. Casper, another son, in 1771 became a trans-Allegheny pioneer, and settled at West Newton, Westmoreland county, where he erected the first mill west of the mountains and also a stockade fort for the protection of the frontier settlers. His son, General Joseph Markley, became very prominent in business and social affairs and in 1844 was the Whig candidate for Governor.

Before John Christian Merkel died he conveyed to his son George 175 acres of land. George died in 1779 and wrote his will with a goose-quill. He was a slave

holder and bequeathed his slaves, Michael and Elizabeth Grof, to his widow and children, with the special mention that the slave Michael should become the property of Casper, his son, who was also bequeathed the mill property, then established with 200 acres of land. George Merkel erected the first mill, a log structure, on the land originally purchased for four shillings an acre. The mill was erected in 1749 above the present mill site. Casper, the son, built the second mill, of stone, in 1796. This mill stood until 1854, when Samuel Merkel, a grandson of Casper, erected the one standing today.

Casper was a commissioner of Berks county from 1801 to 1804, a soldier of the Revolution and officially connected with the Berks county militia. His brother Christian froze to death in the arms of Heinrich Heffner while both were confined in a church in New Jersey used as a prison during the Revolution. Casper was the father of three sons and three daughters, and Jacob succeeded him as miller and owner of the old homestead. Jacob was the most powerful miller of the family in physical strength. He was six feet and three inches tall and used to carry two three-bushel sacks of wheat, one on each shoulder, up the mill stairs. He was the father of three sons and six daughters.

The son, Samuel, became the miller of this generation and also figured prominently in politics. He was a Democrat and became county treasurer of Berks from 1867 to 1869. He erected the present Merkel mill of stone and was miller until his death. His son Augustus succeeded him. The original farm house, erected in 1767, is still standing. Augustus sold the mill to Amos Rothermel. In 1912 it was sold to D. E. Hill, who formerly conducted the Heinly and Heffner mills. This property has been one of the busy spots in milldom in

Berks county. One pair of stones was used for wheat grinding; another for rye and two for corn and oats, and in a year as high as 26,000 bushels of grain were ground. An old pair of stones was also used for grinding old bricks which the farmers used for plastering stone houses, making an imitation facing of brick.

While the mill was operated by six generations of Merkels, many other persons learned the trade, among them Levi Haas, who for seventy years was a noted miller; John B. Hawly, David Whiskeyman, Aaron Miller, Moses Nester, James Mertz and John Krick.

Whiskeyman was probably the most tricky miller who ever labored at the Merkel mill. One day a young man by the name of Leibensperger was fishing and fell asleep while sitting on a plank along the bank of the dam. Whiskeyman pushed him into the dam and gave him a cold shower bath free of charge, but had the expense and trouble to rescue him from drowning. Leibensperger took the joke without a murmur and a year later when visiting at the mill pretended he espied a shoal of fish the like of which he had never seen. He called Whiskeyman and while they were standing on a log he pushed Whiskeyman into a pool much deeper than the one he experienced a year ago.

Brecknock township's oldest mill is at Allegheny-ville and was erected in 1777. How many owners it had is not known, but it is one of the few very old mills with the roller process, introduced by Jeremiah Horning, the present owner.

Swamp creek, a tributary of the Perkiomen, has half a dozen mills, all of which date back a century or more. Among the headwaters of this stream, the Bechtel, Oberholtzer and Stauffer families figured prominently around the old burr-stones and mill hoppers. The Bechtelsville Mill at Bechtelsville, Berks

county, is sometimes known as the Old Stauffer Mill. It stands in the very midst of the town. It is one of the mills of colonial days, with no known date when the first mill was erected. In 1882 one of the older mills was remodeled and the roller process added by John Stauffer.

At a nearby mill lived John C. Stauffer, probably a cousin of the first one to remodel the old mill. He, too, was the owner of a mill, a little farther down the stream and only half a mile from the center of the town. Here the father and the son David conducted the milling business sixty years, and also manufactured linseed oil. Jacob Oberholtzer later conducted this mill and also the Bechtelsville mill for a time, as well as Elam Oberholtzer, another miller of the Oberholtzer family, closely inter-married with the Bechtel and Stauffer milling fraternity.

The Red Mill, just outside of Bechtelsville, was the second in Berks county that for ten years was solely in charge of a woman. She came from another well known Pennsylvania German family and was Miss Lydia Landis. On the farm she learned to become a first class farmer's wife and an expert baker and when she assumed the name of Mrs. Mahlon Reitnauer she became a full fledged miller and while her husband was tilling a farm she operated a flour mill. She could dress mill stones and handle a three bushel sack of wheat as well as the young farmers who brought it to her mill. When the day's work was done she could take her flour and knead it into bread, which she baked on an old fashioned hearth.

Amity, in this case of the mill and the miller, stands for much more than friendliness and good understanding. The Amity roller mills in Amity township is a plant conducted by James M. High all his life, and

through the latter the name was changed from Mount Pleasant Mills. The change proved beneficial, for Amity township was at peace with the Indians in the olden days and the Amity mill has had a peaceful career with its competitors on the same stream and there has been amity with all the millers close by.

Amity township was one of the famous dwelling places of the Indians, and was called by them Menhaltanink, which to them signified, "where we drank liquor." The revised version of this name is Manatawny, and when the English settled the region as early as 1701 this name was applied to the stream. Among the first mill owners on this site were David Dry and Jacob Weaver. High became Dry's son-in-law and learned the trade at Dry's mill, known as the Oley Roller Mills today. The mill is in charge of Wilson D. High and James L. Weidner is the assistant. It is a stone structure, well built and in good condition, and considered one of the leading mills in the Oley valley.

Peter Ludwig, one of the early ancestors of the Oley valley, landed in New York in 1733 as a redemptioner and Edward Bertolet, a Huguenot, paid $60 for his passage because he expected in Ludwig to obtain a good stone mason who could erect a mill for him. Ludwig made good and when the mill was completed he obtained his freedom. The mill has remained in the Bertolet family more than a century.

The Ludwigs not only built mills but became millers and Eli V. R. Ludwig, a descendant of the pioneer builder, for many years conducted the Fairview mills near Griesemersville, Berks county, also on the Manatawny, now owned and operated by John P. Fisher, a former school teacher and descendant of the Fisher family. The latter live in one of the oldest Colonial farm-houses in the Oley valley, a home not equaled in

its style of Colonial simplicity anywhere in the state and whose hand carving on the doors, walls and ceilings has been the study of many architects and home builders. The last mill on this site was erected in 1894. Previous mills on this site figured nearly two centuries.

Another family of millers in Berks county who spread mill knowledge for generations through Pennsylvania and other states is the Gable. Their members have conducted old mills at Gabelsville and Morysville, in Berks county; at Pottstown, Montgomery county, and one has been operating a large mill at Larned, Kansas. The Gable mill history dates back to four generations and the present owner of the Gable mills in Berks county is Daniel G. Gable, a former commissioner of Berks county. The Gables came from Switzerland. Daniel Gable's father, David, built the mill at Gabelsville, a town named after the family, shortly before the Civil War. His sons Ephraim and Henry also became millers.

The Schall family, famous in the charcoal furnace history of Berks county, conducted a mill at Pikeville on the Manatawny. More than 150 years ago George Schall erected the first mill. Later it became the property of Dr. William A. Herbst, father of the late State Senator Edwin M. Herbst, of Berks county. The next owner was George Renninger. The old mill was burned in 1883 and when rebuilt was occupied by Jonas Lesher and it is now owned and operated by Ellis Y. Yoder.

Oley township, Berks county, the home of the wealthiest farmers and best farm-houses, surrounded by the garden land of the county, has a score of homes which still bear in all details the architecture of the Colonial period. Among one of the finest of these homes is the well known Udree farm, on which is one

of the oldest mill sites in the county, within three hundred yards from the historic Oley furnaces of charcoal days. Between the Oley hills and threading the valley in purling purity is Furnace creek, which gives the power to the water-wheels at the Udree Mill, a mill famous during the Revolution.

The owner of this mill was Daniel Udree, a native of Philadelphia, born on August 5, 1751. He came to the Oley valley and engaged in the production of iron ore, operating for thirty years the Oley furnaces and the Rockland forges, until the Sally Ann furnace was established on the latter site.

During the Revolutionary period Daniel Udree not only kept the mill running day and night, making flour for the soldiers, but enlisted for several years and commanded a regiment at Brandywine, where his horse was shot under him. He took an active part in the local militia of Oley township for many years and later was appointed major general, serving seven years.

The farm house adjoining the historic mill still retains the small colonial little window frames, the historic stone chimney running from cellar to garret, the old time porches and also the fireplaces. For forty years this mill was in the hands of the Weinberger family. It is now in other hands, although still in active operation, but the furnace industry is dead.

One of the Revolutionary mills in Berks county which gave way to more modern industries was the Van Reed Mill, along the beautiful Wyomissing creek where the stream enters the Schuylkill river, and where now stands the plant of a million dollar corporation. In 1753 a mill was erected on this site by Evan Price and in 1773 was sold to Nicholas Lotz, who kept it busy during the Revolution grinding out flour for the soldiers. Mr. Lotz was a Commissioner of Forage and

purchased supplies for the army until the close of the war and later became a Lieutenant Colonel in the Revolutionary Army and was taken a prisoner at Long Island.

Later this mill became the property of Governor Hiester. The latter raised a company of men which became a part of the Flying Camp in the regiments of Lieutenant Colonel Nicholas Lotz and all participated in the Battle of Long Island. After the death of Governor Hiester, the mill was sold to George Smith, for $8,501, on April 7, 1836, by the administrators, Joseph S. Hiester and Rev. Henry A. Muhlenberg, a son-in-law of the deceased Governor Hiester. Smith sold the mill to Isaac Shanaman and in 1877 the mill came into the hands of the Van Reed family, the owner being Henry Van Reed, who was a judge in Berks county from 1869 to 1875. Henry Van Reed's children inherited the property and George Van Reed was the last owner, before it was sold to the Metropolitan Electric Company as the site of a power plant.

Before the Revolution, Gabriel and Jonathan Hiester, pioneer settlers, laid the plans for a little mill at the junction of the Tulpehocken and Plum creeks in Bern township. Later this mill passed into the hands of the Reber family, whose early ancestors came to Pennsylvania from Langenselbold in Kris Hanau, Regrersungbezirk, Cassel, Germany, where the descendants of four brothers still reside. Those who came to America were on the ship "Snow Two Sisters," which arrived in Philadelphia on September 9, 1738, and among the Reber clan was Johan Bernard Reber. The Hiesters and Rebers were closely intermarried and after Hiester retired from the milling business, John Reber, a grandson of the immigrant, became the owner.

John Reber married Elizabeth Minnich. The union

Udree Mill, Berks Co.

Mensch Mill, Berks Co.

was blessed with eleven children. Nine grew to manhood and womanhood and left a total of thirty-six sons and daughters who spread the milling blood and milling industry to twelve States of the Union. With the Union canal near at hand, the product of this mill was shipped by canal whenever 300 barrels had accumulated to make a load for one of the boats. As late as 1848 much of the wheat ground here was brought to the mill in canal boat bottoms. Joseph Reber was succeeded in 1860 by his brother Elias. When Elias moved to Tina, Missouri, Henry M. Reber, a son of Joseph, took the mill. One hundred yards from the mill stood one of the typical little red school houses, and today it is the oldest school house standing in the county.

Here Hiester and Reber sons were school teachers. The first teachers were termed "Yankees" and were hired by the parents of the community in the days when one pair of boots had to suffice for two winters while in summer the school lads had to tramp barefooted. There were no desks and the benches used were made out of the end pieces of logs or the last board to be sawed from a log. Holes were inserted into the ends and pegs held the legs of the benches in place. Three cents a day was the tuition the "yankee teacher" got from the parents for each pupil under his supervision, and with no desks in front of the benches, the books were held by the fingers and thumbs until the leaves were worn completely through and through. Punishment was meted out by the hickory stick route and one of the descendants termed this medicine "A No. 1 Thrashings and a guaranteed cure for almost all the school capers." Today this mill is practically in ruins, part of the walls remaining, and among all the sites I have visited I know of none whose neglect is more to be regretted, for here was a site for a roller mill of

the first magnitude, where its products could be conveyed to the needs of 125,000 people by motor truck in forty minutes.

Interior of Reber's Mill, Berks Co.
Showing the Miller's Desk

Daniel G. Gable Dressing a Mill Stone

Chapter V

LANCASTER AND LEBANON COUNTY MILLS

LANCASTER COUNTY

AMONG the older mills in this county ranks the Adamstown Mill, erected by the founder of Adamstown, William Adams, who laid out the town in 1761 on a general plan of 28 lots of one acre each, 29 of one-half acre and others adjacent, with a street four perches wide running east and west. At the end of the town, on this street, was located the mill when the town was still known as Adamsburry. The founder died in 1772 and left considerable land, including the mill property. Adams was of English descent and his wife, Anna, German. Their descendants are very numerous, scattered all over Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri and Oregon and other states. Isaac Adams, youngest son of the miller, represented his town in many ways. William represented Berks county in the 19th and 20th Congresses. John, another son, commanded a brigade during the War of 1812; a granddaughter, Anna Eliza Adams, married Jacob Beaver

and their son, James Adams Beaver, became Governor of Pennsylvania. The mill now on this site was erected by Daniel Moore, whose son Daniel succeeded him. Other owners were: Sebastian Miller, Philip Vanida, his son, Jacob N. Vanida, William Mohn, H. G. Mohn and W. S. Mohn. The Mohn family turned part of the mill into a hosiery factory.

On Hammer creek is an old store mill built in 1765 on a farm now owned by Colonel Henry W. Shoemaker. The first mill was built while Baron Stiegel flourished on the adjoining farm, where Elizabeth Furnace stood.

Near the historic town of Lititz are the mills first known as the "Old Moravian Mills," and now as the Lititz Roller Mills. The first mill on this site was erected in 1732 and is owned by S. E. Bushong.

On Lititz creek is a mill built by the late Johann Pfautz in 1793 and last owned and operated by John Zug. It is known as the Rothville Roller Mills and has a capacity of 25 barrels of flour daily. A 48-inch burr stone is used to grind corn-meal.

On the same creek the Oregon Roller Mills, owned and operated by H. S. Withers, are located six miles northeast of Lancaster, in the town of Oregon. Their history dates back to 1814 when the mill was erected by Jacob Steman. It was later operated by Simon Hosetter, Mr. Yost, Mr. Foltz and, since 1907, by the present owner.

The Pequea Valley Roller Mill, located on Pequea creek, dates dack to 1788, when Rudolph Keagy and wife deeded the property to Abram Keagy. It had many owners, among them John Good, Samuel Myers, Reuben Baker and B. E. Flory, present owner. Part of the mill collapsed in 1882, when an entirely new three story property was erected to take its place by John Good.

ADAMSTOWN MILL, LANCASTER CO.

The old Beaver Mill on Big Beaver creek, near Refton, dates to 1790 when John Barr erected the first plant on the site. He conducted it until 1835, when it was sold to Benjamin Barr, who was succeeded by Christian W. Schultz. In 1908 John Shenk became the owner and later sold it to Harry Miller, the present owner.

A Mr. Good also erected, in 1793, the Horse Hollow Flour Mills on the road leading to Marticsville, six miles from Lancaster. The mill was also used as a distillery until 1830, when it became a flour and feed plant exclusively. In 1885 it was sold to John Haskell, who operated it until 1890, when it was sold to Abram Herr, who introduced the roller process. William and Samuel Pugh were tenants until Herr sold the mill to George Buckwalter. It was sold by the latter to the present owner, Fred H. Sickman.

Along the Conestoga are the Frantz roller mills, a new plant on an old site, erected in 1882 by I. W. Groff and now operated by J. R. Frantz. Two turbines of 24 and 18 horsepower operate the mill, whose capacity is 75 barrels daily.

LEBANON COUNTY

Adam and Eve had their own garden, and through it flowed a river with four branches known in Biblical history as Pison, Gihon, Hiddekel and Euphrates. Just how many mills were on those streams, or how many water wheels made the water sparkle into dashing foam as it rolled over them, if such indeed there were, history has failed to reveal.

The modern Garden of Eden is at Millbach, this county, and its surrounding are a real American Paradise, where also a stream rises as in the garden of old, which branches into another stream, which still flows

into another and another, so that the Biblical story is modernized.

Amid the beautiful surroundings of flowers and trees you find the home and mill of E. R. Illig in the very center of the town of Millbach on Millbach creek. Away back in 1752 E. R. Illig put up a building to serve the triple purpose of a home, a mill and a fort for protection of himself and family from the Indians. The first mill was known as Illig's Indian Fort Mill. The stones that grind the grist today are within the same walls built when the structure answered the purpose of a fort. Surrounding this ancient building is the rose garden, full of honeysuckles, roses, ferns, rubber plants and vines of every description.

The narrative concerning the construction of this fort-mill-home is that these walls were laid by the lone builder, an Illig forefather, without the aid of any scaffold whatever. It is said he laid one stone upon another and approached the wall by laying the stones in such a manner that they formed a step-like grade at one end of the wall, thus building up and up to the very gable end. He must have been a giant among builders, for some of the stones are of such dimensions as might have tempted a Samson to rest awhile. Even today the building would answer as a fort against such enemies who might have no better weapons than Indians had then. E. R., John and Jonas Illig succeeded each other at this mill and when the last Illig decided to retire the mill was taken over by Edwin Bohlinger, who became the gardener of Paradise, the farmer of Illig's farm and the miller of the Indian mill.

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